



CENTER FOR PHILIPPINE STUDIES

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

CALL FOR
PAPERS

Conference 2021

Ub-Ufok: Explorations on Philippine Folklore

*Long ago, in the Philippine mountain province of Barlig, the Ifallig people would sit around the fires of the ator (village council-house) and listen to valiant tales of their ancestors. When work in the payyiw (ricefields) is done, umu-ufok (venerable elders and storytellers) recount these tales in their own language, called Finallig. **Ub-ufok** is the Finallig word for their orature, and these stories, handed down for generations, serve as a record of their history, genealogy and cultural traditions.*

Now we take the term “Ub-Ufok” as our conference title to promote the inclusion of this word and native orature in the corpus of the Filipino language. “Ub-Ufok: Explorations on Philippine Folklore” is a virtual conference to be held by the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa Center for Philippine Studies on September 16-17, 2021. Bringing together the work of various scholars in the field of Philippine folklore, the Ub-Ufok conference addresses four major panel topics:

◆ **RETRIEVAL PROJECTS ON PHILIPPINE ORATURE AND INDIGENOUS CULTURE**

Endangered by modernization and development, how can preservation of culture and oral traditions best be undertaken? How does heritage conservation ethically navigate the interests of indigenous culture bearers and the agendas of the state? How do projects rescue not just the past which fits what we are prepared to accept, but pasts that preserve the surprise and wonder of true discovery, cultural encounters, and fundamentally living heritage?

◆ **TRANSLATION AND TRANS-CREATION OF PHILIPPINE FOLKLORE**

Originally used for entertainment and instruction, what social consequences are emerging from translating indigenous languages for greater circulation, translating oral practice to new media or creative formats, or translating traditional meanings in the context of minority group relations and national identities?

◆ **CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF PHILIPPINE FOLKLORE**

Leading folklorists usually have been non-Filipino thinkers, but what is the range of folklore reception experienced by Filipinos themselves? How are critical approaches modified by encounters with Filipino folklore? What Filipino reflections upon the beliefs of varied peoples can speak to themes crossing cultures and philosophies? How does Filipino critical consciousness grow in response to problematics or paradoxes embodied in our folklore?

◆ **CRITICAL PEDAGOGY OF PHILIPPINE FOLKLORE**

How can we teach folkloric understanding in the present time to inform our daily lives, inspire the creativity of writers and artists, or include the light of heritage to disperse the shadows of historical violence and impoverished memories? What creative teaching strategies help today’s students appreciate the lessons that spring from our cultural traditions and orature?

Submission:

Abstracts of no more than 250 words must be submitted no later than February 28, 2021. All submitted abstracts will be reviewed on a double-blind review basis by no fewer than 3 members of the conference committee. [Click on this *link* to submit.](#)

Notification of acceptance on May 31, 2021. Videotaped 15-minute presentations of accepted papers must be submitted by July 31, 2021. Panelists must appear during the conference for Q&A.

A minimal registration fee of \$25 will be charged the participants to defray cost of honoraria and other expenses. Registration is free for all undergraduate students from all universities.

PDF certificates will be issued for all participants.

For inquiries, contact Dr. Federico Magdalena, Associate Director of the Center for Philippine Studies at fm@hawaii.edu.