



The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Center for Biographical Research

Brown Bag Biography

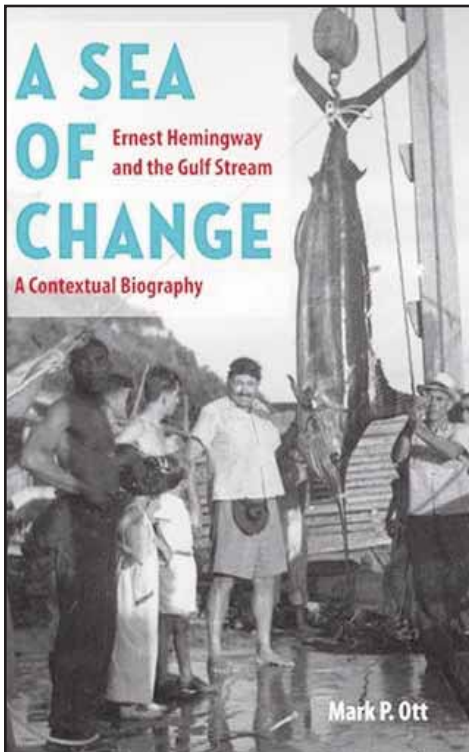
Thursday, August 12, 2010

12:00 noon to 1:15 p.m.

Henke Hall 325, 1800 East-West Road

# Mark Ott

## *Ernest Hemingway and the Geography of Memory*



Early in his career, Ernest Hemingway's writing was often compared to Cezanne's art. By 1952, with the publication of *The Old Man and the Sea*, his style was compared to Winslow Homer's. In *A Sea of Change*, Mark Ott uses Hemingway's published and unpublished correspondence, newspaper articles, and handwritten fishing logs to show how his preoccupation with and scientific study of life in the Gulf Stream moved his theory and practice of writing away from the Paris art circles of the 1920s to the new realism of the 1950s. Travel was the engine of Hemingway's creative life, as the recurrent contrast between spaces provided him with evidence of his emerging identity as a writer. Ott's latest work, the coedited collection *Ernest Hemingway and the Geography of Memory*, explores Hemingway's blending of memory, geography, and life lessons learned through the trauma of experience, as in his fiction, he revisited, reimagined, and transformed the places of his life.

**Mark Ott**, who received his PhD in American Studies from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, teaches English at Deerfield Academy. He is the author, among other works, of *A Sea of Change: Ernest Hemingway and the Gulf Stream—A Contextual Biography* (Kent State UP, 2008), and most recently, the coeditor, with Mark Cirino, of *Ernest Hemingway and the Geography of Memory* (Kent State UP, 2010).