



Monday / Wednesday

2:00 – 3:20

175 Lillis

Spring 2018

HIST 399



PACIFIC HISTORY



ISLANDS, OCEANS, PEOPLE

**Associate Professor
Ryan Tucker Jones**

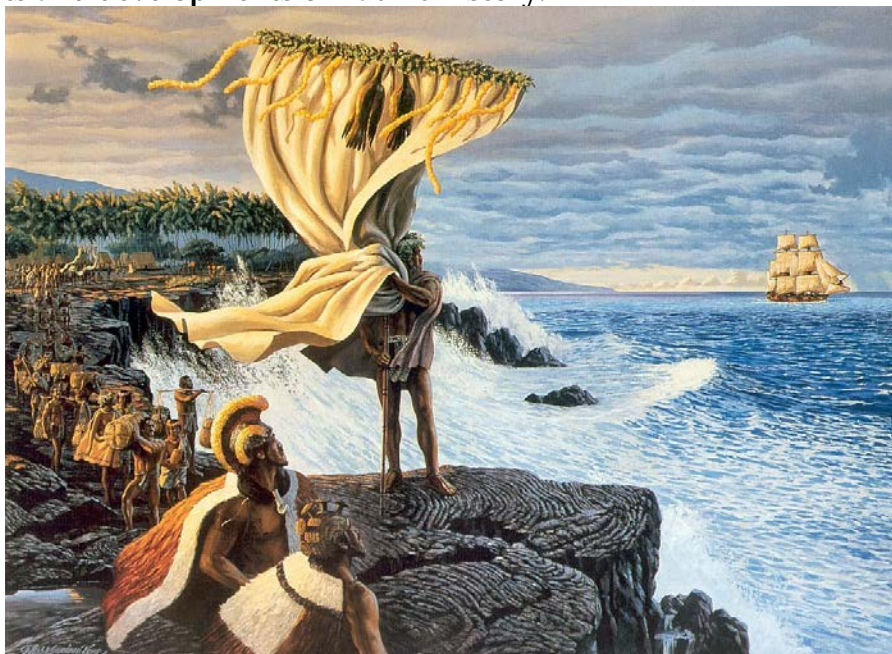
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363 McKenzie Hall

Office Hours: Tuesday, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Pacific History explores the many interconnected stories of peoples, animals, and places around and in the world's largest ocean. It offers an overview of the way human cultures have impacted and drawn inspiration from the Pacific over the last 500 years. The course also assesses the mutual impacts Pacific people and outsiders had on each other during this same period. Specific topics covered will include the history of Pacific voyaging and migration, encounters with Europeans and Asians, the impact of missionaries and disease, new forms of labor and environmental exploitation, the globalizing power of world war and tourism, and the forces and voices of decolonization. Throughout it all we will keep an eye on the important lines of connection bringing people and environments together from New Zealand to Hawai'i to Alaska and every point in between.

In Pacific History you will be exposed to the various ways that Western and Pacific historians attempt to reconstruct the past, from oral histories to written works to archaeology. You will also be introduced to various interpretations and explanations of the key events and developments of Pacific history.



This course meets the criteria for a group satisfying course in the social sciences. This course meets the criteria for the general education requirement in social sciences. As a history course, it is liberal rather than narrowly professional in content. The subject matter is very broad, covering 500 years of history across a huge part of the earth's surface (the Pacific Ocean and the islands and coastal areas across and around it), as well as the diverse peoples who have interacted with the ocean and its resources and animals, as well as with each other. The course brings together several modes of historical analysis, from environmental history to ethnohistory to economic and political histories of colonialism and subsequent independent states.”

This course also meets the criteria for multicultural course in IC (International Cultures) because it focuses in large part on how different groups of people have interacted with their environments and with outsiders, how they perceive history and culture, and how they have struggled for independence in a colonial world. Throughout the course we will consider how Pacific people have shaped unique cultural attributes, defended them against colonial intrusion, and changed their cultures in response to changing times.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the term, you should be able to:

- Identify major themes and turnings points in the history of the Pacific
- Analyze and interpret primary and secondary sources of historical information
- Identify an author’s argument or thesis
- Write and develop your own argument, supported by evidence

Readings

History is a literary field, and thus this course is reading-intensive. Historians, however, do not read books to commit data or formula to memory, as scientists might. They look for arguments, persuasive evidence, and cogent analysis. *Reading assignments are listed at the end of each day for which they should be completed.* Anticipate reading of 60-150 pages per week, though the actual number of pages may be more or less in a particular week.

Required Texts

Matt Matsuda, *Pacific Worlds: A History of Seas, Peoples, and Cultures*. Cambridge, 2012.

Classroom Policies and Late Work

No electronic devices are to be used in class without the permission of the professor.

Late work will be penalized 5% per day.

Coursework Requirements

Assessment in this course consists of coursework (65%) and an exam (35%).

1. Map quiz 5%

2. Eight quizzes 20%

Every Wednesday you will be given a short quiz covering material from that week's lectures and readings. Possible questions will be distributed in advance. Your lowest quiz score for the quarter will not be counted against you.

3. First essay. 800 –1000 words. 15%

An analysis of a primary source in light of the themes of the course developed thus far.

4. Second essay. 1200 words. 25%

An analysis of a primary source and a chosen secondary source in light of the themes of the course developed thus far.

5. Exam. 2 hours. 35%

The exam will consist of a number of terms to define plus a longer essay asking you to synthesize material from the entirety of the course. A list of final exam questions and terms will be distributed several weeks before the exam takes place. Through prior arrangement with the professor a **research essay** may be substituted for the final exam.

Grading

97 – 100	A+	93 – 95	A	90 – 92	A-
87 – 89	B+	83 – 85	B	80 – 82	B-
77 – 79	C+	73 – 75	C	70 – 72	C-
67 – 69	D+	63 – 65	D	60 – 62	D-
59 and below	F				

My grading standards follow those adopted by the history department.

A+ Work of unusual distinction. This grade is rarely awarded.

A Work that distinguishes itself by the excellence of its grasp of the material and the precision and insight of its argument, in addition to being well-executed and reasonably free of errors.

B Work that satisfies the main criteria of the assignment and demonstrates command of the material, but does not achieve the level of excellence that characterizes work of A quality.

C Work that demonstrates a rudimentary grasp of the material and satisfies at least some of the assigned criteria at least reasonably well.

D Work that demonstrates a poor grasp of the material.

F Work that is weak in every aspect, demonstrating a basic misunderstanding of the material and/or disregard for the assignment, or it is plagiarized.

For the department's official standards, see: <http://history.uoregon.edu/undergraduate/index.php>

Class Schedule (Subject to Change)

WEEK 1 INTRODUCING THE VAST PACIFIC

April 2. Intro to the Pacific

April 4. People and the Pacific

Reading: Matsuda, "Introduction," Chapter 1

Ben Finney, "Myth, Experiment, and the Reinvention of Polynesian Voyaging,"
American Anthropologist, New Series, Vol. 93, No. 2 (Jun, 1991): 383 – 404.

WEEK 2. THE CREATION OF OCEANIA

April 9. The Creation of Oceania

Reading: Matsuda, Chapter 2

April 11. The Creation of the Pacific

Reading: Lilikala Kame'eleihiwa, "Kumulipo" Selections

Patrick Vinton Kirch, *A Shark Going Inland Is My Chief*

WEEK 3. PACIFIC EMPIRES

April 16. Spanish, Japanese, and Russian Encounters

Reading: Matsuda, Chapters 4, 8, 9

***** *Map Quiz* *****

April 18. North Pacific Empires

Reading: Frank Quimby, "The Hierro Commerce: Culture Contact, Appropriation and Colonial Entanglements in the Marianas, 1521 – 1688," *The Journal of Pacific History* 46:1 (June, 2011): 1 – 26.

WEEK 4. CAPTAIN COOK'S PACIFIC

April 23. Captain Cook and All that Came Before

Reading: Matsuda, Chapter 11

April 25. Captain Cook and all that Came After

Reading: Marshall Sahlins, "Captain James Cook, or: The Dying God" in *Islands of History*

John Ledyard, "The Death of Captain Cook"

***** **Essay 1 due** *****

WEEK 5. BEACHCOMBERS, MISSIONARIES and DISEASE

April 30. Beachcombers and Missionaries

Reading: Matsuda, Chapter 12

May 2. Disease

Reading: Maretu, *Cannibals and Converts*

WEEK 6. SEALS, SEA OTTERS, SLUGS, AND WHALES

May 7. The World that Canton Created

Reading: Matsuda, Chapters 13, 14

May 9. Sea Slugs, Seals, and Whales

Reading: David Haines, "The Harpoon's Head"

WEEK 7. PLANTATIONS and MIGRATIONS

May 14. Guano and other Sh* &! that Happened

Reading: Matsuda, Chapters 15, 16

May 16. Plantations

Reading: David A. Chang, "Borderlands in a World at Sea: Concow Indians, Native Hawaiians, and South Chinese in Indigenous, Global, and National Spaces," *Journal of American History* 98:2 (September, 2011): 384 – 403.

Mark Twain, Chapter VII, in *Roughing it in the Sandwich Islands*

WEEK 8. EMPIRE and WAR

May 21. New Age of Empire

Reading: Matsuda, Chapters 17, 18

May 23. The Pacific War - Guest speaker

Reading: Geoffrey White and Lamont Lindstrom, eds., Selections from *Pacific Encounters: Island Memories of World War II* (Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1989).

***** **Essay 2 due** *****

WEEK 9. DECOLONIZATION

May 28. *** NO CLASS – MEMORIAL DAY *******

May 30. Decolonization

Reading: Matsuda, Chapters 19

Primary Source: “Nuklia Fri Pasifik” Manifesto

Haunani-Kay Trask, “Women’s *Mana* and Hawaiian Sovereignty” and “Lovely Hula Hands: Corporate Tourism and the Prostitution of Hawaiian Culture,” in Trask, *From a Native Daughter: Colonialism and Sovereignty in Hawaii* (Honolulu, 1999).

WEEK 10. PACIFIC IDENTITIES

June 4. The Pacific Ways

Reading: Matsuda, Chapters 20, 21

June 6. Our Ocean, Our Future

Reading: Epeli Hau'ofa, “We Are the Ocean”

Final Exam: Date TBA