

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU

EN 422:  
MODERN PACIFIC LITERATURE

FALL 2014 (PACE)

SYLLABUS

Instructor: Justin Wyble

Office location: 206B Henry Hall

Office hours:

Mondays, 9:30-10:30 and 11:30-12:30

Tuesdays, 9:30-10:00

Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30

Thursdays, 9:30-10:00

Fridays, 9:30-10:30 and 11:30-12:30

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

“This course introduces students to significant works of contemporary literature written by indigenous Pacific Islanders and explores issues of anti-colonialism, modernization, and traditional culture. Works include writers from New Zealand, Hawai‘i, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga, and Samoa.” (Chaminade University Catalog)

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

The following texts are required for this course and are available at the campus bookstore.

- 1.) *Me!a!:* *A Novel of the Pacific*, by Robert Barclay
- 2.) *Potiki*, by Patricia Grace
- 3.) *Mauri Ola: Contemporary Polynesian Poems in English*, ed. by Albert Wendt, Reina Whaitiri, and Robert Sullivan
- 4.) *This Is Paradise: Stories*, by Kristiana Kahakauwila
- 5.) *The Salt-Wind: Ka Makani Pa‘akai*, by Brandy Nālani McDougall
- 6.) *from unincorporated territory [saina]*, by Craig Santos Perez

### STUDENT COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

- To demonstrate knowledge of Pacific literatures and cultures.
- To demonstrate critical reading, thinking, and writing skills.
- To demonstrate the ability to historicize literary texts.
- To demonstrate the ability to consider the relationship between the content and the form of literary texts.
- To demonstrate the ability to conduct library research on literary texts and related secondary sources, culminating in the successful completion of a research-based literary essay. (PLO 1)

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### *Required Assignments*

\*\*You must complete and submit both essays in order to qualify for a passing grade.

Participation in Weekly Discussion Forums	15%
Weekly Response Papers	25%
Formal Essay 1 (6-8 pp.; due Nov. 9, 2014)	20%
Formal Essay 2 (7-10 pp.; due Dec. 14, 2014)	30%
Final Essay Exam (due by Dec. 20, 2014)	10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### *Weekly Response Papers*

Each student is required to write a weekly response paper based on the week's reading assignments. In these short, informal papers, you will be expected to engage with our readings in a rigorous and thorough manner. My hope is that these response papers will provide you with an informal writing space to try out ideas that you might decide to more fully develop in your formal essays.

#### *Course Website and E-mail Communication*

I will log in to our course website, as well as my CUH email, at least once a day Monday through Friday; I will not check our course website or my CUH email on weekends or holidays. Please allow up to 48 hours (or longer over the weekend and holidays) for my response to your messages.

COURSE SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)

Week 1:

- Robert Barclay, *Meʻaʻa*

Week 2:

- Robert Barclay, *Meʻaʻa*

Week 3:

- Patricia Grace, *Potiki*

Week 4:

- Patricia Grace, *Potiki*

Week 5:

- Selected poems from *Mauri Ola*

Week 6:

- Kristiana Kahakauwila, *This Is Paradise*

Week 7:

- Kristiana Kahakauwila, *This Is Paradise*

Week 8:

- Brandy Nālani McDougall, *The Salt-Wind*

Week 9:

- Craig Santos Perez, *from unincorporated territory [saina]*

Week 10:

- Selected poems from *Mauri Ola*