

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU

EN 422:
MODERN PACIFIC LITERATURE
(INDEPENDENT STUDY)

WINTER 2016 (PACE)

SYLLABUS

Instructor: Justin Wyble

Office location: 206B Henry Hall

Office hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00-5:00; and by appointment

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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.” (CUH Catalog)

REQUIRED TEXTS

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

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

Participation in Weekly Discussion Forums	20%
Weekly Response Papers	25%
Essay 1 (6-8 pp.)	15%
Essay 2 (8-10 pp.)	25%
Final Essay Exam	15%
TOTAL	100%

Weekly Response Papers

You are required to write a weekly response paper based on each 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.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1:

- Robert Barclay, *Meŋaŋ*

Week 2:

- Robert Barclay, *Meŋaŋ*

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*