

AN 350: CULTURES OF OCEANIA

Inst.: Richard Bordner

Off. Hrs.: Beh. Sciences Bldg #114, MWF 11:30-2, TR 11:30-12:30 or by app't.

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**REQUIRED TEXTS:** Hegel, Francis 2001. The New Shape of Old Island Cultures. Honolulu: Univ. of Hawai'i Press.

Besnier, Niko 2011. On the Edge of the Global: Modern Anxieties in a Pacific Island Nation. Palo Alto: Stanford Univ.

**Course Description:** This course is designed as an introduction to the traditional and contemporary cultures of the island Pacific. The emphasis will be on the Oceanic regions of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. The Pacific since European 'discovery' has been a contradiction of images to the West and a backwater of important events - a place with beautiful people, palm trees, sparkling sand and water, a veritable Eden, yet also a place of dark disease-infested jungle and cannibals. These stereotypic images tend to clash both with traditional and modern reality, which is that: 1) the Pacific Ocean is the major undeveloped resource base left on the planet, and 2) Oceania contains the majority of the world's remaining colonial possessions. The region has made major moves towards both independence and a developing sense of regional and ethnic identity, yet is plagued by problems of transportation costs, small size, political unrest, economic dependency, ethnic violence and major health care issues.

Understanding of this area should be a prerequisite for living in Hawai'i or any other area having contact with Oceania.

The Marianist Values of Chaminade University, which we strive to incorporate into all of the Behavioral Studies classes:

- 1) Educate in formation of faith
- 2) Provide an integral quality education
- 3) Educate in family spirit
- 4) Educate for service, justice and peace
- 5) Educate for adaptation and change

**Behavioral Studies Program Student Learning Outcomes linked to this course:**

1. The student will clearly and effectively apply intellectual frameworks and models to interpret and understand social interaction from the Behavioral Studies perspective.
2. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the complex dynamic relationships between the individual and the group (both ethnic and social).
3. The student will integrate anthropological and sociological concepts in their understanding of social reality.
4. The student will assess contemporary social issues through the lens of a diverse group and cross-cultural framework.

**Course Learning Outcomes:** 1) To develop a basic level of understanding and awareness of the island Pacific and the peoples that inhabit it;

2) To develop a basic awareness of the issue of cultural/ethnic identity and its dialog with global change.

*Catalog: Introduction to native cultures of Polynesia, Melanesia, Micronesia and Australia. Emphasis on migration, differences in social organization, land tenure, and effects of contact with Western society. Offered annually.*

### **GRADING:**

**Skill Competencies you must have to take the course:**

**We will be using Canvas for this course. You will also get an invite to share some of my Google Drive folders that have course materials for your use and reference.**

**Assignments should be sent to me as e-mail attachments, either as Word docs/rtf/pdf formal files.**

### **GRADING:**

- **THOUGHT OF THE WEEK EXERCISES:** You will complete a Thought of The Weeks Exercise for each Module [6 total-see schedule]. At the start of each module I will post some topics you might want to consider, or you can do one based on your own personal interest from the materials in that module—if you want to do your own, you must check with me first to see if it's appropriate.
  - Each TOTW will consist of a minimum of 6 paragraphs in a specific format [see below for format details.]
  - Each TOTW is due by the date specified in the syllabus, usually near the end of a specific module
  - The TOTWs count for 70% of your course grade;
- **PRESENTATION/BLOG POST:**
  - You do this by yourself [solo]—NO GROUP WORK
  - The Presentation/Blog will be based on a specific concept or topic from the course materials
  - We have two Service Learning Projects which you may do instead of this assignment—School Tutoring (Palolo) and St. Louis/CUH Planting Project, both through the SL Office
  - Do NOT just repeat the material presented in the course PowerPoints—this must be your own material
  - Your goal is a presentation that would be useful for your classmates
  - Your presentation can be as a PowerPoint, blog post or website (your choice) and cover your topic in detail. For length estimate 5-7 PowerPoint slides or a 7-10 paragraph blog post as the minimum.
  - It must include: 1) clarification of any technical terms and explanation; 2) examples that clarify the question; 3) one or two final thoughts that show the importance of the issue; 4) cites and sources.
  - The Presentation will be worth 20% of the course grade
- **REACTION PAPERS and LEARNING ASSIGNMENTS [as required]:**
  - You will write a number of reaction papers

- o These will be on questions posed in class, usually related to videos
  - o You will not be graded on grammar
  - o They will be from 1-2 pages in length
  - o There will also be a number of various assignments during the semester directed at learning, both readings and tasks. You will be graded on the completion of the assignments.
  - o Reaction Papers/Learning Assignments count for 5% of the course grade
- ATTENDANCE:
    - o Attendance is mandatory in all CUH courses
    - o Attendance counts for 5% of your course grade
  - ELECTRONICS RULES:
    - o Computers-tablets used to take notes in class are encouraged
    - o If you abuse this by trying to multi-task either with social media or working on material for other courses, you will lose the privilege for the rest of the semester
    - o Smartphones are not acceptable as classroom devices, so they must be off;
    - o Breaking these rules will result in you being thrown out of class for that day and listed as not attending.

TOTW exercises (6).....	70%	A= 90-100	D= 60-69
Presentation/Blog.....	20%	B= 80-89	F= -60
Reaction/Learning Assign.....	5%	C= 70-79	
Attendance.....	5%		

**THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY OF EXTRA-CREDIT WORK IN THIS CLASS**

**Thought of the Week (TOTW) Exercise Format 1/20**

**TOTW FORMAT:**

4 Parts [THIS IS THE MINIMUM]:

- 1) Concept or topic covered—specify and define [1 PARAGRAPH]
- 2) Put into a context—what is it’s importance w/in course material [1-2 PARAGRAPH]
- 3) Go into detail on 1-2 specific aspects of the concept/topic NOT covered in the class materials—you can use your course readings but you must also have at least 1 source outside of the course materials [4-6 PARAGRAPHS]
- 4) Discuss the context/relevance of this concept to you (personal), to us (Hawai’i), and to us (global) [1-2 PARAGRAPHS]
- 5) Citations and Bibliography—you must show your sources and these must be more than just course materials [APA format preferred]

**RULES:**

PARAGRAPH= defined as having 2 or more sentences.

CITATIONS= You must show where you got your material from. You MUST support your material with citations.

**WAYS TO LOSE POINTS:**

**1 Use internet/generic definition rather than discipline [course] specific definition= 1 grade down**

Logic= If you can't remember that the course is within a discipline, which has specific definitions attached to terms, then you're not engaging in the class. Also if you forget this rule, you need to be reminded to focus on task.

**2 Merely repeating class [powerpoint/talks] materials= 1 grade down minimum**

Logic= If you can't be organized time-wise to look for outside sources, then you're not completing the assignment—you're merely repeating my materials back to me.

**3 Opinion-Only Writing= If your writing only shows your opinion on the concept/topic; no citations= 1 grade down minimum**

Logic= No one really cares about opinions—they want proof to back up your assertions/analyses so that you are more convincing. If you really need to vent, that's what social media is for.

**4 Working on exercises with others= minimum 1 grade down**

Logic= Sharing material means either you're putting in ½ the effort, or, more likely, one member is doing all the work and the other are entertaining (hopefully) parasites.

**5 Bogus citations/sources= 1 grade down minimum**

Logic= If you only pull your sources from the immediate [Wikipedia-only for example] then just as with the generic definition, you're not engaging with the material and showing any effort to process the class materials.

<b>MODULE</b>	<b>DATES</b>	<b>TOPICS COVERED</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>
<b>I</b>	Jan. 13-17	Views of the Pacific / Theories of the Other	Read through PowerPoint Module 1 / <b>TOTW 1 DUE</b>
<b>II</b>	Jan. 20-Feb. 7	Colonialism-Stereotyping; Settlement and Migration in the Pacific / Pre-European Melanesia	Read through MOD 2; Read Melanesia articles in Google Folder / <b>TOTW 2 DUE</b>
<b>III</b>	Feb. 10-21	Colonial Melanesia / Revitalization-Cargo Cults / Kastom vs. Sukulu / Contemporary Melanesia / Conflict in Melanesia	Read through MOD 3; <b>Read Besnier (all) / TOTW 3 DUE</b>
<b>IV</b>	Feb. 24-March 20 (3/23-29 Spring Break)	Pre-European Polynesia / Colonial Polynesia / New Eden-Paradise / Contemporary Polynesian societies / Migrations	Read through MOD 4; <b>Read Hezel (all)</b> ; Read Polynesia articles in folder / <b>TOTW 4 DUE</b>
<b>V</b>	March 30-Apr. 3	Pre-European Micronesia	Read Micronesia articles in folder; read through MOD 5 / <b>TOTW 5 DUE</b>
<b>VI</b>	Ap. 6-May 1	Colonial Micronesia / WW II-Americans / Contemporary Micronesia - CFA / Outmigration	Read through MOD 6 / <b>TOTW 6 DUE</b>

We comply with all federal laws and guidelines including Title 9.

Chaminade University of Honolulu recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at

CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you want to speak to a confidential source you may contact the following:

- Chaminade Counseling Center | [808 735-4845](tel:8087354845).
- Any priest serving as a sacramental confessor or any ordained religious leader serving in the sacred confidence role.

### **Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is an essential aspect of all learning, scholarship, and research. It is one of the values regarded most highly by academic communities throughout the world. Violations of the principle of academic honesty are extremely serious and will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for promoting academic honesty at Chaminade by not participating in any act of dishonesty and by reporting any incidence of academic dishonesty to an instructor or to a University official. Academic dishonesty may include theft of records or examinations, alteration of grades, and plagiarism.

Questions of academic dishonesty in a particular class are first reviewed by the instructor, who must make a report with recommendations to the Dean of the Academic Division. Punishment for academic dishonesty will be determined by the instructor and the Dean of the Academic Division and may range from an 'F' grade for the work in question to an 'F' for the course to suspension or dismissal from the University.

## **SCIENTIFIC METHOD DEFINITIONS**

The **METHODS OF SCIENCE** are only tools, tools that we use to obtain knowledge about phenomena.

The **SCIENTIFIC METHOD** is a set of assumptions and rules about collecting and evaluating data. The explicitly stated assumptions and rules enable a standard, systematic method of investigation that is designed to reduce bias as much as possible. Central to the scientific method is the collection of data, which allows investigators to put their ideas to an empirical test, outside of or apart from their personal biases. In essence, stripped of all its glamour, scientific inquiry is nothing more **THAN A WAY OF LIMITING FALSE CONCLUSIONS ABOUT NATURAL EVENTS.**

Knowledge of which the credibility of a profession is based must be objective and verifiable (testable) rather than subjective and untestable.

**SCIENCE** is a mode of controlled inquiry to develop an objective, effective, and credible way of knowing.

The assumptions one makes regarding the basic qualities of human nature (that is, cognitive, affective, behavioral, and physiological processes) affect how one conceptualizes human behavior.

The two basic functions of scientific approach are 1) advance knowledge, to make discoveries, and to learn facts in order to improve some aspect of the world, and 2) to establish relations among events, develop theories, and this helps professionals to make predictions of future events.

Research Design And Counseling  
Heppner, Kivlighan, and Wampold

A **THEORY** is a large body of interconnected propositions about how some portion of the world operates; a **HYPOTHESIS** is a smaller body of propositions. **HYPOTHESES** are smaller versions of theories. Some are derived or born from theories. Others begin as researchers' hunches and develop into theories.

The **PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE** decrees we can only falsify, not verify (prove), theories because we can never be sure that any given theory provides the best explanation for a set of observations.

Research Method In Social Relations  
Kidder

**THEORIES** are not themselves directly proved or disproved by research. Even **HYPOTHESES** cannot be proved or disproved directly. Rather, research may either support or fail to support a particular hypothesis derived from a theory.

Scientific research has four general goals: (1) to describe behavior, (2) to predict behavior, (3) to determine the causes of behavior, and (4) to understand or explain behavior.

Methods In Behavioral Research; Cozby

In order to verify the reliability and validity of scientific research it is important to replicate the results. It is the preponderance of evidence that establishes/supports the theory.

<http://allpsych.com/researchmethods/replication.html>