

MODERN PACIFIC LITERATURE

Syllabus

Course Description

This course introduces students to significant works of contemporary literature and film produced by indigenous Pacific islanders and explores issues of anti-colonialism, modernization, and traditional culture. Works include writers from across Oceania, including a sampling of works from Melanesia, Micronesia, Hawai'i, New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, and other Polynesia locations.

This course fulfills the Global Awareness course requirement.

Prerequisite: Any 200-level English offering.

Instructor Information



Kumu Lisa L Chow

✉ Email: lisa.chow@chaminade.edu

* The best way to contact me is by email.

Please allow 24 hours for a response.

Course Learning Outcomes:

- Identify key texts, authors, and critics of Pacific Literature
- Define key themes in Pacific Literature including:
 - o Mobility and Identity
 - o Colonialism
 - o Issues of aesthetics and critical contexts
 - o Traditional “literary” expressions

- Analyze the connection between the literature and social issues facing the culture.
- To demonstrate critical reading, writing, and thinking skills.
- To understand the relationships between literature, culture, and history.

Required Materials

- English 422 Course Reader: Modern Pacific Literature
 - o Each student will be provided with their own printed copy, as well as a pdf copy that can be downloaded.
- Grace, Patricia. *Potiki*. Penguin UK, 2020.
 - o *Potiki* is available in the classroom. You can also purchase your own copy on Amazon.com
- All other readings will be available on Canvas as a downloadable pdf.

Student Expectations

1. Attend class and participate on a regular basis
 - o Class attendance is mandatory and your T.A. will be taking attendance.
2. Use your computer time wisely and for school work only.
3. Respect your T.A. Rude or disrespectful behavior will be reported.
4. Do not plagiarize
 - Plagiarism is presenting the work of another as your own. The guidelines for plagiarism are in the General Catalog (online). Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - Complete or partial copying directly from a published or unpublished source without proper acknowledgment to the author. Minor changes in wording or syntax are not sufficient to avoid charges of plagiarism. Proper acknowledgment (citation) of the source is always mandatory.
 - Paraphrasing the work of another without proper acknowledgment.
 - Submitting work prepared by another as one's own. (Chaminade Catalog, online).

Any student suspected of plagiarism will receive a failing grade for the paper or turned in work.
5. This is YOUR class and YOUR responsibility. While your T.A. and I will do our best to help you succeed in this class, it is YOUR responsibility to keep track of stated deadlines and monitor your progress.

Grading and Assignments

POSTS:

Your posts should be short (250-300 words - approx. 1-1.5 pages typed) and should be pasted (or typed) directly into the dialogue box. Please **do not submit an attachment** as it takes longer to read.

You must turn in 10 posts during the semester and each post must contain the following:

1. A short summary of the reading (3-4 sentences)
2. A short paragraph where you compare a section of the reading to your own experience. Or you comment on why you could not relate to the reading.

3. A question about the piece for further research or consideration.

You will also reply to at least two of your classmates' posts as part of your participation grade. You will not be able to view other posts until you have submitted your own post.

Papers:

The two papers are short (3-4 pages) and will require minimal, personal research. They must be typed, and MLA formatted. All papers should be uploaded onto the Canvas site. Topics will be announced during the semester.

Grading Assessment

Weekly Posts	30%
Papers (2)	40%
Weekly Quizzes	20%
Class Participation	10%

Late Assignment Policy: Late assignments will be subject to grade penalties, which will depend on the number of days an assignment is submitted after the due date. If there is a health issue, family emergency, or other extenuating circumstance that prevents you from turning in an assignment on time, it is your responsibility to communicate your situation to me ahead of time. We can work together to try to find a solution. Do not hesitate to contact me via email: lisa.chow@chaminade.edu

Grading Scale

- 'A' Outstanding scholarship and an unusual degree of intellectual initiative. (90-100)
- 'B' Superior work done in a consistent and intellectual manner. (80-89)
- 'C' Average grade indicating competent grasp of subject matter. (70-79)
- 'D' Inferior work of the lowest passing grade, not satisfactory for fulfillment of prerequisite course work. (60-69)
- 'F' Failed to grasp minimum subject matter; no credit given.

A passing grade for this class is a 'D'

Marianist Values

This class represents one component of your education at Chaminade University of Honolulu. An education in the Marianist Tradition is marked by five principles and you should take every opportunity possible to reflect upon the role of these characteristics in your education and development:

1. Education for formation in 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

Academic dishonesty cannot be condoned by the University. Such dishonesty includes cheating and plagiarism (examples of which are given below), which violate the Student Conduct Code and could result in expulsion from the University.

Cheating includes but is not limited to giving unauthorized help during an examination, obtaining unauthorized information about an examination before it is administered, using inappropriate sources of information during an examination, altering the record of any grades, altering answers after an examination has been submitted, falsifying any official University record, and misrepresenting the facts in order to obtain exemptions from course requirements.

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting any document, to satisfy an academic requirement, that has been copied in whole or part from another individual's work without identifying that individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation a documented idea that has not been assimilated into the student's language and style, or paraphrasing a passage so closely that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or dry-labbing, which includes (a) obtaining and using experimental data from other students without the express consent of the instructor, (b) utilizing experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of the course or from previous terms during which the course was conducted, and (c) fabricating data to fit the expected results. (See College Catalog)



- **ATTEND & PARTICIPATE! COMPLETE ALL ASSIGNMENTS! STUDY!**
- **BINDERS** should be brought to each class session. Students may be called upon at random to share writings or turn them in for a grade.
- **READINGS** should be brought to class. Read and complete homework before class. Be prepared to participate in meaningful discussions with your classmates.
- **DEADLINES:** Homework assignments must be submitted on the due date at the beginning of class. (See the Late Work Policy section.)
- **EMAIL & CANVAS:** Check these daily! You're responsible for the work and grades.
- **QUIZZES AND EXAMS** can't be retaken. (Significant essay assignments, however, will be rewritten, for writing is a process involving prewriting, drafting, and "re-vision.")
- **FORMATTING:** Usually, drafts for peer review, drafts for submittal, and final versions for submittal must be printed, legible, word-processed on a computer, double-spaced, using 12-point font (Times New Roman, Times, or Calibri) on white, letter-sized (8.5" x 11"), 20# paper with 1" margins (top, bottom, left, and right) and your last name and page numbers (printed at the top right, per MLA formatting). Work may be printed double-sided. Sometimes we'll need 2 or more copies of each draft. At other times, we will use paperless Google Documents online, saving trees.
- **PLAGIARISM** is copying or paraphrasing (rewording or rearranging) words from another author without citing the author's work or thoughts. The first instance of plagiarism will result in an "F" for the assignment. Any further instance of plagiarism result in an "F" for the course. Any essays downloaded from the Internet and submitted for the course are plagiarized work and constitute an "F" for the course and may result in disciplinary action at the college level.
- **ASK!** If you are not sure about an assignment or question, ask for further explanation. There is no question that is too small or too large.
- **PA`A:** Be **PREPARED** with **PAPER** and **PEN**, to be fully **PRESENT**, and to **PARTICIPATE. ATTEND** to all tasks. **ACTIVELY** read, write, learn, and engage.

