



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

HISTORY PROGRAMME

HIST 403: A Topic in Pacific History: Colonial Power and Pacific Resistance 1800-1946 30 POINTS

TRIMESTERS 1 & 2 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 16 November 2014
Teaching dates: 3 March to 17 October 2014
Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014
Mid-year break: 3–13 July 2014
Mid-trimester break 2/3: 25 August to 7 September 2014

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Seminar: Thursdays 10.00-11.50
Venue: OK 406 (FL Wood Seminar room)

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Adrian MUCKLE
Room No: OK 426
Phone: 463 6773
Email: adrian.muckle@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Will be advised in week one. Appointments may be made at any time.

Communication of additional information

Additional information and any changes to the timetable for the seminar programme will be advised by email, and announced at seminars. Students will be asked to confirm their preferred email address during Week One. Otherwise it will be presumed that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding.

Prescription

This course examines the uneven imposition of colonial rule from the vantage point of insular Oceania (1800-1946). Particular attention is paid to the local contexts of colonial rule, the social and political effects of its imposition, and its limits as determined by Pacific islanders.

Course content

Colonialism is an umbrella term spanning many different realities. This course examines how colonialism took shape in specific Oceanian contexts. Colonialism spearheaded far-reaching transformations in Pacific Island polities, societies and cultures. Understanding its legacy requires an appreciation of how colonial control was carried out in different places as well as attention to the varieties of local/indigenous resistance, complicity, accommodation and appropriation (as well as disinterest). The course focuses on local dynamics and processes of colonial rule and power relations as well as the different approaches that have been brought to their study by historians and anthropologists over the last two decades. Comparative and case-study approaches will be privileged (drawing attention where possible to interconnections and lateral comparisons within Oceania).

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing this course should be able to:

1. demonstrate a sound grasp of the scholarly literature on colonial rule and power relations in the Pacific islands;
2. show an understanding of the debates about the character and significance of colonial rule and power relations in historical settings (including the Pacific region); and
3. critically apply this understanding in their independent research work, including the study and evaluation of primary sources.

Teaching format

This course is taught by seminar. There are twelve seminars which will generally be held fortnightly across the teaching year. Discussions will be led by students. Seminar dates will be set in consultation with students at the first two meetings.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
2. Attend at least nine seminars.

Workload

This course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote a total of 300 hours to it over the two trimesters. Over the 24 teaching weeks of the academic year, that is an average of 12.5 hours per week. This includes attendance at 12 seminars (24 hours in total), completion of set seminar readings and preparation (approx. 8 hours per seminar; 96 hours in total). The remaining hours notionally assigned to completion of each assessment item are (*on average*): 54 hours for the seminar presentation and survey essay; 36 hours for the book review essay; 18 hours for the Research Essay proposal; and 72 hours for the Research Essay.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Seminar Presentation and Historiographical Survey Essay of 2,500 words—essay due 7 days after the presentation.	30%	1, 2	tba
2	Book Review Essay, 2000 words.	20%	1, 2	6 June
3	Research Essay Proposal, 1000 words.	10%	1, 2, 3	17 July
4	Research Essay, 4,500 words.	40%	1, 2, 3	3 Oct.

Marking criteria.

The following is a short description of each assessment item.

Seminar presentation and historiographical survey essay on the seminar topic. In one of the seminar meetings each student is required to make a presentation of 30 minutes which introduces and critically examines a topic or theme in the readings set for the week. A **3000** word historiographical essay based on the presentation is due within **7 days** of the presentation. Students are assessed on: the relevance of the material presented, the clarity of the presentation, the effort made to facilitate a directed class discussion of the set readings, and the quality of the essay's survey of the topic or theme. The essay should identify and address the key literature and the questions, issues or themes that have shaped writing about a particular area. The essay should be attentive to changes in approach which reflect broader historiographical trends.

Book Review Essay. Each student is required to review a single monograph published within approximately the last five years, situating it within a broad historiographical context and critically assessing its contribution to the history of colonial interactions within the island/region concerned. The theme/subject area of the monograph must differ from the theme/subject examined for the seminar/survey essay.

Research Essay Proposal. 1000 words. The proposal is to be submitted in written form and also presented orally in class on **17 July**. The proposal should identify and outline a research topic with relevance to the course themes and historiography of colonialism in the Pacific Islands. In the proposal students are required to: explain the importance and relevance of the proposed topic; briefly review the relevant literature; and identify a suitable (accessible) corpus of sources. Students will also be assessed on the clarity of their class presentation of the proposal.

Research Essay. 5000 words. The research essay provides students with an opportunity to independently engage with the historiography of colonial rule in the Pacific issues by using both primary and secondary sources to develop a thesis and supporting argument which addresses the research question(s) outlined in the proposal. The assessment will take into account the quality of the research conducted (the student's ability to gather and evaluate evidence) and the argument made in support of the thesis as well as the student's ability to apply ideas discussed in seminars and earlier assessments. Assistance will be provided in the form of a roundtable discussion on the work-in-progress (date to be advised); and students may also submit a draft of the research essay to the lecturer for feedback.

Submission and return of work

Essays should be submitted in hard copy through the office essay drop-off point, Old Kirk Room 405, together with completed cover sheet which is available on Blackboard and/or from the office.

Essays will be returned at times to be advised. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the Office, Old Kirk Room 405 between the hours of 1.00 and 2.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

Extensions and penalties

Honours students are expected to manage their workloads sufficiently to submit assignments on time. If you have any problems please see your course coordinator as soon as possible, or the Honours Coordinators, or the Head of Programme.

There are no penalties for the course other than the mandatory course requirements.

Set texts

Copies of seminar readings will be provided by the coordinator a fortnight in advance of each seminar and may be collected from the History Programme office. A small photocopying fee of \$15 will be levied by the History Programme (arrangements for payment will be advised in Week One).

Recommended reading

No prior study of Pacific history is required, but students should familiarise themselves with one or more of the general histories, e.g.: Ian Campbell's *Worlds Apart...* (2003); Kerry Howe's *Where the Waves Fall...* (1984); Howe, Kiste and Lal (ed), *Tides of History...* (1994); or Denoon *et al.* (ed.) *The Cambridge History of the Pacific Islanders...* (1997).

By way of preparation for this course *all* students should read Section III of: Borofsky, Robert (ed.), *Remembrance of Pacific Pasts: An Invitation to Remake History*, Honolulu, 2000 (e-copy available through VUW library).

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the Honours orientation on 24 February.

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin

- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz