

Department of Anthropology
ANTH 2212F-001/INDIGSTU 2212-001
Cultures of the Pacific
PROVISIONAL COURSE OUTLINE
Fall 2023-24



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Instructor and course information:

Instructor: Douglas Campbell

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Credit Value: 0.5

Antirequisites: Indigenous Studies 2212F/G

Prerequisites: None.

Course Description:

Taking the idea of the Pacific as a starting point this course is an exploration of the diverse ways members of different Pacific societies participate in, and respond to, some of the fundamental issues facing humanity. We will critically investigate the work of anthropologists as well as filmmakers, artists, writers, and pop media producers who turn Pacific peoples into an array of spectacles, dangers, lost and found lives, survivors, victims, warriors, protectors, performers, seers, healers, magicians, consumers, producers, activists, beacons, and whatever else we can imagine. Through selected examples from Melanesia, Polynesia, and Micronesia, this course will reveal how people often understood as peripheral, are at the centre of global processes.

A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course's OWL site before the first day of class.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- analyze underlying assumptions of Western representations of the Pacific
- recognize how Pacific peoples' lives are lived at the intersection of global processes
- gain insights into how peoples of the Pacific make meaning of their lives and experience as Indigenous in postcolonial states, within colonial compacts and territories, and as a cosmopolitan diaspora
- gain an awareness of our mutual struggles for identity and self-determination as contemporaries grounded in local specificities and experience
- interpret anthropological knowledge about Pacific cultures

Course Materials:

Registered students will be able to access course readings and media through the course site in OWL before the first day of class.

Evaluation:

Weekly Reading Response Quizzes	20% (10 X 2%)
Ethnographic Exercise 1	15%
Midterm Test	20%
Ethnographic Exercise 2	15%
Final Exam	30%

Quizzes on Readings – 20%

There will be 12 quizzes on the weekly readings. These will be completed on the OWL course site using the Tests & Quizzes feature. The quizzes will be posted on the OWL Lesson page on Wednesdays and will close at 6:20 pm. The quiz questions will be drawn from the readings to be covered in the week that they are posted (i.e. the Week 1 quiz will cover the Week 1 readings.) Each quiz will consist of four true-false questions, will have a 10-minute time limit, and may only be submitted once. No make-ups will be permitted for missed quizzes except in cases where academic accommodation has been granted. However, in calculating the final quiz grade only the best 10 out of 12 quizzes will be counted.

Assignments – 30%

Each of the two Ethnographic Assignments can be accessed on the course's OWL page. All materials necessary to complete the assignment are contained in its designated OWL folder. No external research or materials are required.

Assignment details will be discussed in class and made available on the Assignments page of the course OWL site.

Exams – 50%

A mid-term test will be held during our regularly scheduled class period on October 18th. The final exam will take place during the designated exam period for this course. To answer exam questions you will be required to use specific examples from course materials. Course materials include all assigned readings and all lecture material including media. Exams will consist of short answer and essay questions. Electronic devices will not be allowed during tests and examinations. Details about the exam format will be provided in lecture.

Late Policy for Assignments

There will be a 2% reduction of the assignment grade for each day that an assignment is late (including weekends and holidays). Unless accommodation is granted, assignments that are not handed in within seven days of the due date (including weekends and holidays) may receive a grade of zero. All students can make use of the "Late Days Bank".

Late Days Bank

In this course, any student can draw on a 'Late Days Bank' of six days (in total) to submit writing assignments past the submission date. This gives students an opportunity to submit work late when they need to do so without submission of any documentation or any explanation. Of course, additional academic considerations are possible with submission of appropriate documentation to your Academic Counsellor. The late bank can only be used for the two writing assignments (Ethnographic Exercise 1 and Ethnographic Exercise 2).

Academic Statements and Policies:

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current [Academic Rights and Responsibilities](#) policies in the Academic Calendar. Such items include accommodations for students with disabilities, religious holidays, consideration for medical illness, academic appeals, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and code of student conduct.

Academic Integrity - Statement on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and [Turnitin.com](#).

Course Specific Conditions Required to Pass this Course:

In order to pass an essay course, the student must exhibit some minimal level of competence in essay writing and the appropriate level of knowledge of the content of the course. **In order to pass this course a student must submit and receive a passing grade on each written assignment (Ethnographic Exercise 1, and Ethnographic Exercise 2).**

Use of OWL

Western's OWL online course management program will be used for providing the final course outline and weekly schedule, completing weekly quizzes (using the Test and Quizzes tool), providing, submitting, and returning assignments (using the Assignments tool), communications with the class (using the Announcements tool), and posting grades (using the Gradebook tool). Pdf copies of lecture slides will be made available in the OWL Lesson pages after each class.

Academic Consideration for Student Absences

For students who have missed, or will miss, any course work, whether it be for medical related or non-medical related, please read the details and instructions on "[What is Academic Consideration](#)".

No accommodations will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date or a missed quiz or test. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds.

All missed work must be made up by the end of the exam period in the applicable term.

Accessible Education

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. Please see [Accessible Education](#) for information.

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