

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Te Whare Wānanga o te Ūpoko o te Ika a Māui



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

Anthropology

ANTH 308

Anthropology in Oceania

Course Outline

CRN 276 : 24 POINTS : TRIM2, 2008

COURSE COORDINATOR: A/PROFESSOR JEFF SISSONS

Room 1017, Murphy Building

Tel: (04) 463 6131

Email: jeff.Sissons@vuw.ac.nz

LECTURES: MON & FRI 10-11: MURPHY LT 220

ANTH 308 Anthropology in Oceania

COURSE COORDINATOR: A/Prof. Jeff Sissons
Murphy Building, MY 1017
Tel: 463 6131
Email: jeff.sissons@vuw.ac.nz

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

LECTURES: Monday & Friday 10-11am, Murphy LT220

TUTORIAL: You are required to attend one of the following tutorials/week:

Monday: 12noon-1pm, MY302

Monday: 2-3pm, HU113

Monday: 4-5pm, MY303

Information not included in this outline will be provided in class

COURSE CONTENT

The major theme running through this course will be deep engagements between indigenous cultural orders and western religious, economic and political systems in Oceania. We begin by examining the relationship between indigenous tradition and history focussing particularly on Marshall Sahlins' theoretical writing on the relationships between culture and historical practice in Oceania (topic 1). Engagements between Christianity and indigenous social orders have produced distinctive Christian cultures and entailed creative responses to modernity (topic 2). Economic engagements have led to the emergence of class relations and the creation of new identities that draw on and transform traditional and Western symbolic capital (topic 3). Political engagements have included efforts to rationally reconcile chiefly power and individualised democracy (topic 4). Labour migration has been associated with the development of distinctive diasporic cultural forms (topic 5).

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students will have gained a deeper understanding of cultural engagements between indigenous cultural orders and western systems in Oceania and of the

process of deep cultural engagement in general. They will also have developed a greater ability to critically analyse the literature in this field and to think about it in a more theoretically informed way.

The forms of assessment will assist you to achieve the aims and objectives outlines above and to develop particular study skills.

- The Essays are designed to enhance the research and analytical skills in relation to the study of cultural engagement in Oceania and to enhance your writing skills generally.
- The in-class test is designed to measure how well you have understood the readings and lectures for this course.

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

There will be two essays and one in-class test. The weightings are as follows:

First Essay: 2000 words **30% of final grade**

Due: 4pm, Friday 8 August 2008

Second Essay: 3000 words **40% of final grade**

Due: 4pm, Friday 3 October 2008

In Class Test: **30% of final grade**

Friday, 10 October 2008, during lecture time

You will also be required to make one tutorial presentation. This will not be assessed.

ASSIGNMENT BOX

Assignments must be placed in the Assignment Box on level 9 of Murphy Building. They must not be placed in individual staff pigeon-holes, or under staff doors, or handed to lecturers or tutors. This is to ensure that all work is properly recorded when submitted, and to avoid problems which have arisen in the past, when work has gone missing. At 4pm the box will be emptied, the assignments date-stamped and recorded before handing to the appropriate markers.

STUDENTS MUST KEEP A PHOTOCOPY OF EVERY WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT.

Unless students have followed these procedures the Programme will accept no responsibility for pieces of written work claimed to have been handed in.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

All written work submitted for assessment in Sociology and Social Policy courses must have a School Assignment Cover sheet. A sample is to be found at the back of this Course Outline. Further copies can be located on the reception counter at the Administration Office and on the Assignment Box, on level 9 of Murphy building. You may wish to have a front sheet of your own, but a School Cover sheet must be used. This is critical for accurate identification and recording of your work.

STUDY MATERIAL

All required readings are included in the student notes which are available from Student Notes Centre at approx \$50.00

WORKLOAD

It is recommended that on average students should spend 18 hours per week for a course this level, including lectures and tutorials.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENT:

Students must attend 7 out of 10 tutorials. One tutorial presentation is required. Assignments must be handed in by the dates indicated.

PENALTIES

Penalties will apply for lateness in presenting assignments. Unless an extension has been approved before hand, 5% will be deducted from the marks for each day that the assignment is late (counting that piece of work as 100%). This will only be waived by the presentation of the medical certificate.

READINGS

1. Tradition and History (Weeks 1-3)

Turner, James, 1997. 'Continuity and Constraint: Reconstructing the concept of tradition from a Pacific perspective', *The Contemporary Pacific*, 9(2): 345-381 ISSN 0275-3596

Sahlins, Marshall, 1993. 'Goodbye to Triste Tropes: Ethnohistory in the Context of Modern World History', *Journal of Modern History*, 65: 1-25 ISSN 0095-5981

Sahlins, Marshall, 1985. 'Other Times, Other Customs: The Anthropology of History'. In M. Sahlins, *Islands of History*, Chicago University Press, Chapter 2. ISBN 0-226-73358-0

Sahlins, Marshall, 1992. 'The Economics of Develop-man in the Pacific', *Res* 21: 12-15. ISSN02771322

Errington, F. and Gewertz, D., 2005. 'On Humiliation and Class in Contemporary Papua New Guinea', in Robbins, J. and Wardlaw, H. *The Making of Global Modernities in Melanesia*, Ashgate ISBN 07546-4312-3

2. Christianity (Weeks 4-5)

Sissons, Jeffrey, (n.d). 'From Post to Pillar: God-houses and Social Fields in Nineteenth Century Rarotonga' Unpublished Ms

Barker, John, 2003. 'Christian Bodies: Dialectic of Sickness and Salvation among Maisin of Papua New Guinea', *The Journal of Religious History*, 27(3): 272-292. ISSN 0022-4227

Newland, Lynda, 2004. 'Turning Spirits into Witchcraft: Pentecostalism in Fijian Villages', *Oceania*, 75: 1-18. ISSN 0029-8077

Robbins, Joel, 2001. 'God is Nothing but Talk: Modernity, Language and Prayer in Papua New Guinea Society', *American Anthropologist*, 103(4): 901-912. ISSN 0002-7294

Toren, Christina, 2003. 'Becoming a Christian in Fiji: An ethnographic Study of Ontogeny', *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute (N.S.)* 9: 709-727. ISSN 1359-0987

Tomlinson, Matt, 2002. 'Sacred Soil in Kadavu, Fiji', *Oceania* 72(4): 237-257. ISSN 0029-8077

3. Class (Weeks 6-7)

Sissons, Jeffrey, 1997. 'Conspiracy, Class and Culture in Oceania: A View from the Cook Islands', *The Contemporary Pacific*, 9(1): 164-178 ISSN 0275-3596

Gewertz, Deborah and Errington, Frederick, 1999. 'Introduction: The Twists and Turns of Difference'. In D. and F. Errington, *Emerging Class in Papua New Guinea: The Telling of Difference*, CUP, pp.1-23 ISBN 0521655676

Gewertz, D. and Errington, F., 1998. 'Sleights of Hand and the Construction of Desire in Papua New Guinea Modernity', *The Contemporary Pacific* 10(2): 345-368. ISSN 0275-3

Gewertz, D. and Errington, F., 1999. 'The Wewak Rotary Club: The Middle Class in Melanesia', *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, 3: 333-353. ISSN 1359-0987

Smith, Michael et.al., 2001. Review of *Emerging Class in Papua New Guinea: The Telling of Difference*. *The Contemporary Pacific*, 13: pp262-278. ISSN 0275-3596

James, Kerry, 2003. 'Is there a Tongan Middle Class? Hierarchy and Protest in Contemporary Tonga', *The Contemporary Pacific*, 15(2):309-336. ISSN 0275-3596

4. Democracy (Weeks 8-9)

Sissons, Jeffrey, 1994. 'Royal Backbone and Body Politic: Aristocratic Titles and Cook Islands Nationalism since Self Government', *The Contemporary Pacific*, 6(2): 90-110
ISSN 0275-3596

Hau'ofa, Epeli, 1994. 'Thy Kingdom Come: The Democratisation of Aristocratic Tonga', *The Contemporary Pacific*, 6(2): 414-428. ISSN 0275-3596

James, Kerry, 1997. 'Rank and Leadership in Tonga'. In G. White and L. Lindstrom (eds) *Chiefs Today: Traditional Pacific Leadership and the Postcolonial State*, Stanford University Press. Chapter 3. ISBN 0804728518

Trnka, Susanna, 2005. 'Land, Life and Labour: Indo-Fijian Claims to Citizenship in a Changing Fiji', *Oceania*, 75(4): 354-367 ISSN 0029-8077.

Lal, Brij, 2002, 'Making History, Becoming History: Reflections on Fijian Coups and Constitutions', *The Contemporary Pacific*, 14: 148-169. ISSN 0275-3596

Hereniko, Vilsoni, 2003. 'Interdisciplinary Approaches in Pacific Studies: Understanding the Fiji Coup of 19 May 2000', *The Contemporary Pacific*, 15: 75-93. ISSN 0275-3596

5. Regionalism and Diaspora (Weeks 10-11)

Hau'ofa, Epeli, 1994. 'Our Sea of Islands', *The Contemporary Pacific*, 6(2): 148-161
ISSN 0275-3596

Sissons, Jeffrey, 1999. 'Nation/Destination'. In J. Sissons, *Nation and Destination: Creating Cook Islands Identity*, Institute of Pacific Studies, Chapter 6. ISBN 982-02-0142-X and 982-315-002-8

Morton, Helen, 2004, 'All Tongans are Connected: Tongan Transnationalism', in Lockwood, V. *Globalization and Culture Change in the Pacific Islands*, Pearson, Chapter 8. ISBN 0-13-042173-1

McGrath, Barbara, 2002. 'Seattle Fa'a Samoa', *The Contemporary Pacific*, 14(2): 307-340.
ISSN 0275-3596

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Student and Staff Conduct
- Academic Grievances
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means **no cheating**. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times. Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. Plagiarism is **prohibited** at Victoria.

The University defines plagiarism as follows:

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not.

'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea, even if it is presented in your own style. It includes material from books, journals or any other printed source, the work of other students or staff, information from the Internet, software programmes and other electronic material, designs and ideas. It also includes the organization or structuring of any such material.

Plagiarism is not worth the risk.

Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct (www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct) and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- suspension from class or university
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course.

Find out more about plagiarism and how to avoid it, on the University's website at:

www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html.

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Head of School: Assoc. Professor Jenny Neale, MY1013
Tel: 463 5827 E-m: Jenny.Neale@vuw.ac.nz

International Student Liaison: Dr Hal Levine MY1023
Tel: 463 6132 E-m: Hal.Levine@vuw.ac.nz

Maori and Pacific Student Liaison: Dr David Pearson, MY1020
Tel: 463 6748 E-m: david.pearson@vuw.ac.nz

Students with Disabilities Liaison: Dr Russil Durrant, MY1120
Tel: 463 9980 E-m: russil.durrant@vuw.ac.nz

School Manager: Carol Hogan, MY918
Tel: 463 6546 E-m: Carol.Hogan@vuw.ac.nz

School Administrators: Monica Lichti, Alison Melling, Adam Meers
MY921, Tel: 463 5317, 463 5258, 463 5677
E-m: sacs@vuw.ac.nz

Office use only

Date Received:

(Date Stamp)

School of Social and Cultural Studies

Te Kura Mahinga Tangata

ANTHROPOLOGY

CRIMINOLOGY

SOCIOLOGY & SOCIAL POLICY

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Assignment Cover Sheet

(please write legibly)

Full Name: _____
(Last name) *(First name)*

Student ID: _____ Course (eg ANTH101): _____

Tutorial Day: _____ Tutorial Time: _____

Tutor's name: _____

Assignment Due Date: _____

CERTIFICATION OF AUTHENTICITY

I certify that this paper submitted for assessment is the result of my own work, except where otherwise acknowledged.

Signed: _____ Date: _____