



SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**HISTORY - 2008 TRIMESTER 2**

**HIST 336 / INTP 336 / POLS 373: THE PACIFIC ISLANDS AFTER 1945  
CRN 15525**

**Lecturer:** Dr Adrian MUCKLE  
**Room:** OK 426  
**Phone:** 463 6773  
**Email:** adrian.muckle@vuw.ac.nz

**Lecture Times:** Monday, 3:10 - 4:00

**Venue:** CO LT 122

**Seminars:** There will be one two-hour seminar each week.  
Monday 4:10 - 6:00 EA001  
Tuesday 10:00 – 11:50 EA001  
Tuesday 2:10 – 4:00 OK406

**Office Hours:** These will be announced at the first lecture and posted on Blackboard. You are also welcome to telephone or email me.

**Additional Information**

Information about any changes to the timetable or programme will be announced in lectures and posted on the electronic course site Blackboard (<http://www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>).

**Course Aims**

This course surveys developments in the Pacific Islands in the period since 1945. In the first half of the course particular attention is paid to developments in the period between World War II and the attainment of independence in some Pacific Islands. The second half of the course considers some of the recent and current challenges faced by Pacific states and nations. One of the aims of the course is to examine the extent to which the social and political changes that occurred after the war have influenced or shaped subsequent developments: patterns of decolonisation, democratisation, urbanisation, governance, ethnic conflict and the postcolonial heritage of Pacific Island states and nations.

**Course Content**

Details of topics covered in 2008 are indicated in the Lecture and Seminar programmes below.

**Course Objectives**

Upon successful completion of the course students should be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of the major political and social processes that have shaped Pacific Island states and nations since 1945;

- demonstrate an understanding of recent conceptual and theoretical issues in the study of the Pacific Islands;
- demonstrate an ability to present a structured and informed assessment of changes and events that have taken place in the Pacific Islands since 1945 in oral and written work;
- demonstrate an ability to locate and critically examine some of the sources available to historians of the contemporary Pacific.

### Workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 16 hours per week to this course. This includes the weekly lecture (1 hour) and seminar (2 hours).

### Course Reading

The *essential text* for this course is the HIST 336 / INTP 336 / POLS 373 Book of Readings. Books of Reading are distributed from the Student Notes Shop on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop the day after placing an order online.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays), 10.00 am – 1.00 pm Saturdays.

Phone: 463 5515

### Recommended Reading

The following texts are recommended as useful introductions to Pacific history and politics. Both are available on three-day loan from the Central Library:

Denoon, Donald, *et al.* (eds) *The Cambridge History of the Pacific Islanders*, Cambridge and New York, 1997.

Howe, Kerry, *et al.* (eds) *Tides of History: the Pacific Islands in the Twentieth Century*, St. Leonards, NSW, 1994.

Victoria University of Wellington, History, HIST336: The Pacific Islands after 1945, 2008/336/2

### Assessment requirements

This course is 100% percent internally assessed. The four assessment items are:

1. seminar presentations (20%);
2. a 2000 word essay (30%) due 7 days after first seminar presentation;
3. a 3000 word research essay (40%) due on **Friday, 10 October**;
4. and an in-class test (10%) to be held on **Monday, 6 October**.

### Relationship between assessment and course objectives:

1. The first 2000 word essay requires students to assess post-1945 developments in a particular Pacific island state/territory; it thereby provides students with an opportunity to demonstrate in written work an understanding of the major political and social processes that have shaped Pacific Island states and nations since 1945.
2. For the second 3000 word research essay students are assisted to develop their own research topic on a particular question, issue or theme; it thereby provides students with an opportunity to engage with theoretical issues and to locate and critically use relevant sources.
3. The two seminar presentations complement the two essays; in the first students are asked to present a critical overview of developments in a particular Pacific island territory/state; in the second students are asked to present their research proposal or findings. In each case students are assessed on: quality of research; coverage of key issues; quality of responses to questions; structure; clarity; and use of visual aids.
4. The class test requires students to write a single synoptic essay on a broad theme relating to the course. Students will be assessed on: the quality of their argument, their insights and their ability to support their argument with relevant examples from seminar readings and other material covered in the course.

## Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of essays—a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days. Work that is more than 8 days late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked. However, penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds, e.g., illness (presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary) or similar other contingencies. In such cases prior information will be necessary.

## Mandatory Course Requirements

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- a) 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)
- b) Attend at least 7 of the 10 seminars;

There is no provision in this course for make-ups to compensate for additional absences except in cases of serious illness (supported by a medical certificate), or serious personal crisis. You should allow for the possibility of unforeseen illness when using up your quota of permissible absences.

## 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. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.*

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

*Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.*

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

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

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx)

## 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 on the VUW home page at

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/calendar\\_intro.html](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html)

or go to: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy/default.aspx>

For information on the following topics, see the corresponding Blackboard files (or similar files or course website pages):

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

## COURSE PROGRAMME: Lectures and Seminars (weeks 1-12)

There are eleven lectures and ten seminar classes. The in-class test will be held during the normal lecture hour in week 12.

<p><b>1:</b> Introduction—the defining years. Provides an overview of the course and the principal themes, issues and questions as well as its structure and assessment. Especial emphasis is placed on the need to develop an understanding of the period between WW2 and the achievement of independence.</p>	<p><b>2:</b> Pacific futures, 1941-47: from colonial rule to trusteeship. Considers the different ways that colonial powers (and others) were thinking about the future of the Pacific Islands—either as individual territories or as a region—in the context of WW2 and its aftermath.</p>	<p><b>3:</b> WWII—Indigenous experiences and postwar initiatives. Considers the impact that WWII had on the aspirations of Pacific Islanders, and the links with postwar movements for political and social change.</p>	<p><b>4:</b> Roads to Independence, 1947-1977. An overview of issues that arose during the transition to independence in the three decades after 1947. Particular emphasis will be placed on the options that were dismissed in the 1940s, '50s and '60s.</p>
No seminar.	Seminar: Prospects and retrospectives.	Seminar: After the War I: Australia and NZ .	Seminar: After the War II: Islander Experiences.
<p><b>5:</b> “Empire breaking” and decolonisation—a framework for discussion. Considers different meanings of “decolonisation”. Is “decolonisation” an appropriate name for the processes that took place during this period?</p>	<p><b>6:</b> Struggles for Independence: Kanaky. Examines the “events” of 1984-88 in New Caledonia.</p>	<p><b>7:</b> “Stepping Stones to National Consciousness”. Examines the role of the university in attempts to foster a sense of national identity in PNG.</p>	<b>8:</b> Topic to be advised.
Seminar: Decolonisation.	Seminar: Sovereignty and Independence: Kanaky.	Seminar: Ethnicity and Nation-Building: PNG and Bougainville	Seminar: Fiji: 1987, 2000, 2006.
<p><b>9:</b> Challenges to nation building: The case of the Solomon Islands. Considers some of the challenges to nation building with reference to the Solomon Islands.</p>	<p><b>10:</b> Regionalism. Considers the contributions of regional organisations to the Pacific since 1945? To what extent have they defined the Pacific since 1945? What influence have they had on decolonisation and nationalism?</p>	<p><b>11:</b> The future of the state—“failed states”, “weak states”, etc. Considers the attempts that have been made at state building in the light of recent crises and gloomy prognoses.</p>	<b>12:</b> Class test
Seminar: Chiefs in Politics.	Seminar: The Solomon Islands Crisis.	Seminar: Regionalism.	No seminar.