



SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

HISTORY PROGRAMME

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

**2009 TRIMESTER 1**

2 March to 5 June 2009

**CRN 15525**

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

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

**Lecture Times:** Thursday, 11am – 11.50am

**Lecture Venue:** Hugh Mackenzie LT002

**Seminars:** There will be one **two-hour** seminar each week.

Monday	13:10–15:00	OK 406
Tuesday	9:00–10:50	OK 406
Thursday	9:00–10:50	OK 406

### **Course delivery**

The course is taught by a weekly lecture (1 hour) and seminar (2 hours). Seminar groups will be arranged in Week One and the first seminar will be held in Week Two. The course is 100% internally assessed.

### **Communication of 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 content

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.

Details of particular topics covered in 2009 are indicated in the Lecture and Seminar programmes below.

## Learning 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.

## Graduate attributes

As with all HIST courses, learning objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of specific attributes:

### Critical Thinking

- 1: Assess conflicting or different arguments
- 2: Develop understanding of historical events, context and change
- 3: Use appropriate methodologies to evaluate evidence

### Creative Thinking

- 1: Synthesise information in a clear, logical and lively way
- 2: Create well-documented interpretations of historical events
- 3: Search for patterns in historical processes over time and space

### Communication

- 1: Develop lucid historical arguments through writing and oral discussion
- 2: Use library print and online resources efficiently and constructively
- 3: Strengthen learning through collegial interchange

### Leadership

- 1: Pursue and manage independent research
- 2: Develop critical citizenship
- 3: Develop confidence through public speaking
- 4: Strengthen decision-making capabilities

### Other

- 1: Understand the development of the historical discipline

## Expected workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 15 hours per week to HIST 336 / POLS 373 / INTP 336. This includes the weekly lecture (1 hour) and seminar (2 hours).

## Readings

### Essential texts:

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.

### Assessment requirements

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

1. seminar presentation(s) (20%);
2. a 2000 word essay (30%) due **Monday, 6 April**;
3. a 3000 word research essay (40%) due on **Monday, 25 May**;

4. and an in-class test (10%) to be held during the lecture hour on **Thursday, 4 June**.

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. For the seminar presentation(s) students are asked to make a short presentation and to help facilitate discussion relating to a question, topic or theme in the readings set for the week. Students are assessed on: the relevance of the material presented, the clarity of the presentation, and the effort made to facilitate class discussion.
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.

### Return of assignments

Essays will be returned at the end of lectures or in seminars in the week that they become available. Essays not collected in class will be held in the History Programme office for a short time and thereafter in the course coordinator's office.

## 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 from seminars.

## Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria

University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as 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, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <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* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

This website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates.

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

<p><b>Wk1 (5 Mar.):</b> Introduction—the defining years.</p> <p>An overview of the course and the principal themes, issues and questions as well as its structure and assessment.</p>	<p><b>Wk 2 (12 Mar.):</b> Pacific futures, 1941-47: from colonial rule to trusteeship.</p> <p>Considers how 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>Wk 3 (19 Mar.):</b> The 1950s</p> <p>Considers key events and developments around the region during this decade.</p>	<p><b>Wk 4 (26 Mar.):</b> Roads to Independence after 1962: “coming ready or not”.</p> <p>An overview of issues that arose during the accelerated shift towards self-government and independence in many Pacific territories.</p>
Wk1: No seminar.	Wk2 Seminar: Territories, Nations and Sub-regions.	Wk3 Seminar: The War: Islander Experiences	Wk4 Seminar: Post-war Policies and Indigenous Responses
<p><b>Wk 5 (2 Apr.):</b> The 3Ds: Decolonisation, Dependency and Development.</p> <p>Considers different understandings of “decolonisation”. Is “decolonisation” an appropriate term for the changes that have occurred since 1945?</p>	<p><b>Wk 6 (9 Apr.):</b> “Stepping Stones to National Consciousness”.</p> <p>Examines the role of education in attempts to foster a sense of national identity in one or more territories.</p>	<p><b>Wk 7 (30 Apr.):</b> Challenges to nation building: The case of the Solomon Islands.</p> <p>Considers the challenges experienced by the Solomon Islands since independence.</p>	<p><b>Wk 8 (7 May):</b> The Nouméa Accord: decolonisation and local citizenship in New Caledonia.</p> <p>NB New Caledonia’s provincial elections will be held on 10 May.</p>
Wk5 Seminar: Preparing for independence	Wk6 Seminar: Nuclear Testing	Wk7 Seminar: Ethnicity, Nationalism and Nation-Building	Wk8 Seminar: Chiefs in Politics
<p><b>Wk 9 (14 May):</b> The Peoples’ Charter: Fiji since 2006.</p> <p>Examines the “People’s Charter for Change, Peace and Progress” (2007-8) in light of the constitutional reform process that took place in 1995-96</p>	<p><b>Wk 10 (21 May):</b> Regionalism and Regional organisations.</p> <p>Considers the contributions of regional organisations to the Pacific since 1945? In what ways have they defined the Pacific since 1945? What</p>	<p><b>Wk 11 (28 May):</b> Review lecture</p>	<p><b>Wk 12 (4 June):</b> Class test</p>

under the Reeves Commission.	influence have they had on decolonisation and nationalism?		
Wk9 Seminar: Fiji: 1987, 2000 and 2006	Wk10 Seminar: Explaining Recent Crises in Oceania	Wk11 Seminar: Regional Initiatives	Wk 12: No seminar.