



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

TRIMESTER 1 AND 2 2013

4 March to 17 November 2013

Trimester dates

Trimester dates: 4 March to 17 November 2013

Teaching dates: 4 March to 18 October 2013

Easter break: 28 March to 3 April 2013

Mid-trimester break 1/3: 22–28 April 2013

Mid-year break: 4–14 July 2013

Mid-trimester break 2/3: 26 August to 8 September 2013

Last piece of assessment due: 4 October 2013.

Study week: 21–25 October 2013

Examination/Assessment Period: 25 October to 16 November 2013

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Adrian Muckle

Room No.: OK 426

Email: adrian.muckle@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: To be announced in Week 1. Students may telephone or email me at any time to make appointments outside of these times.

Class times and locations

Seminar Time: Wed 2.00-4.00pm

Seminar Venue: Old Kirk 406

Teaching/learning summary

This course is taught by seminar. There are twelve seminars which will generally be held fortnightly. Discussions will be led by students. Dates will be set in consultation with students at the first meeting.

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the HIST 403 Blackboard site.

Course 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 is predicated on the need to analyse how colonialism took shape in specific Oceanian contexts, each of them depending heavily on local factors. Colonialism spearheaded far-reaching transformations in Pacific Island polities, societies and cultures. Understanding the legacy of colonialism requires a thorough 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 aims to examine the effects (e.g., social and political) of the imposition of colonial rule as well as its limits as determined by Pacific islanders. While the deployment of imperial power, and connections between the colonial and the imperial, will not be ignored, the course will focus on local dynamics and processes of colonial rule and power relations. Comparative and case-study approaches will be privileged (drawing attention where possible to interconnections and lateral comparisons within Oceania).

Learning objectives

Students passing this course should be able to:

- demonstrate a sound grasp of the scholarly literature on colonial rule and power relations in the Pacific islands;
- 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
- be able to critically apply this understanding in their independent research work, including the study and evaluation of primary sources.

Graduate attributes

As with all History courses, learning objectives of this course contribute to the attainment of specific graduate attributes. For more details please consult our website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/hppi/about/overview-of-the-school/hist-overview#grad-attributes>

Expected workload

In accordance with the Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote a total of 300 hours to HIST 403, including two hours of seminars per fortnight. Over the 24 teaching weeks of the academic year, that is an average of 12.5 hours per week.

Readings

Set texts:

Copies of core seminar readings will be provided by the coordinator at least a fortnight in advance of the seminar and may be collected from the History Programme office.

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).

Assessment requirements

This course is 100% internally assessed as follows.

- Historiographical Survey Essay, 3000 words (25%)—due **19 April**;
- Seminar Presentation and Response Essay (25%)—essay due **7 days** after presentation;
- Research Essay Proposal, 1000 words (10%)—due **17 July**; and
- Research Essay, 5000 words (40%)—due **4 October**.

(Students may negotiate alternative deadlines in order to manage their workload.)

Historiographical Survey Essay (25%). 3000 words. This essay requires students to demonstrate their understanding of the historiography concerning the imposition and development of colonial rule in a particular island, island group or region. 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.

Seminar Presentation and Response Essay (25%). In one of the meetings held before 7 June, students are required to make a presentation of 20-30 minutes which introduces and critically examines a topic or theme in the readings set for the week. A 1500 word response 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 response essay's engagement with the readings.

Research Essay Proposal (10%). 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 (40%). 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.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **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 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary.

Mandatory course requirements

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- 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)
- Attend at least eight seminars.

Submission of work

All written work must be submitted in hard copy to the History Programme office with a History Programme cover sheet attached.

Return of marked course work

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the Office, Room 405, Old Kirk Building between the hours of 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

Class representative

A class representative will be elected in the first week, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

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>

Where to find more detailed information

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the Academic Office website, at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcademic.