

DRAFT SYLLABUS as of 02/27/2018 (Readings, in particular, still subject to change)

History 107-10

The Pacific World

Professor Clark L. Alejandrino
Department of History
Summer 2018, Session I
Office Hours: TBA

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Lectures and Discussion: MTWR 3:15-5:15 pm, ICC 213

Course Description: The Pacific Ocean has historically been regarded as a vast and prohibitive void rather than an avenue for integration. Yet over the last five centuries motions of people, commodities, and capital have created important relationships between the diverse societies situated on the "Pacific Rim." This course examines the history of trans-Pacific interactions from 1500 to the present. It takes the ocean itself as the principal framework of analysis in order to bring into focus large-scale processes--migration, imperial expansion, cross-cultural trade, transfers of technology, cultural and religious exchange, and warfare and diplomacy. This "oceans connect" approach to world history brings these processes into sharp relief while also allowing for attention to the extraordinary diversity of cultures located within and around the Pacific.

Course Format: Combination of lectures and discussion in ICC 213.

Course Learning Goals: Students who consistently come to class, participate in discussions, finish the readings, and complete all requirements will improve their ability to:

- Appreciate places, cultures, and peoples in the Pacific World from different perspectives.
- Think critically about change over time. "The past" is not an unchanging set of facts but an ongoing conversation about what it means. It is an argument about how we should interpret it in light of available evidence while remaining sensitive to the many contexts we may place them in.
- Identify and analyze primary sources, and use them critically as evidence for building historical interpretations.
- Access and use library resources, databases, journals, books, and digital media.
- Articulate ideas verbally and in writing and defend them with evidence.
- Read critically and reflect thoughtfully on texts, and carefully assess their claims and biases.
- Write critically and thoughtfully. You will be able to articulate a thesis-driven argument supported with evidence documented in standard citation formats.

Course Readings: The following books are available for purchase in the GU Bookstore or from other booksellers:

David Armitage, and Alison Bashford, eds. *Pacific Histories: Ocean, Land, People*. Palgrave MacMillan, 2014. (Paperback: ISBN-13: 978-1-137-00163-4).

James R. Cook (author), and Philip Edwards (introduction). *The Journals of Captain Cook*. Abridged edition. Penguin Classics, 2000. (Paperback: ISBN-13: 978-0-140-43647-1).

David Iglar, *The Great Ocean: Pacific Worlds from Captain Cook to the Gold Rush*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017. (Paperback: ISBN-13: 978-0-190-49875-7).

All required books are on 4-hour reserve in the library. In addition to these required books, a number of required articles, chapters, and primary documents are available in PDF in the HIST 107-10 Blackboard website under “Documents.” These items are marked with an asterisk (*) in the syllabus.

For those who wish to get a quick but stimulating introduction to History as a discipline/way of thinking critically, I recommend John H. Arnold, *History: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000) (Paperback: ISBN-13: 978-0-192-85352-3).

Course Requirements:

- One short (7-8 pages) paper (based entirely on assigned course reading; topics to be handed out during the summer session) (30%)
- Final exam (short answer identifications and comprehensive essay questions on material covered over entire summer session) (30%)
- Participation (30%) (Participation may also take the form of pop quizzes to ensure students are consistently doing the readings)
- Attendance (10%)

Letter grades in this course have the following numerical equivalents: A=4.00; A-=3.67; B+=3.33; B=3.00; B-=2.67; C+=2.33; C=2.00; D+=1.33; D=1.00; F (work turned in but unsatisfactory)=0.50; F (work not turned in at all or work deemed by Georgetown University Honor Council to be plagiarized in part or in whole)=0.00.

Academic Integrity: All written work in this course is governed by the Georgetown University Honor System. Anyone found guilty of cheating or plagiarism by the Honor Council will receive an “F” (0.00) for the assignment in question. Egregious acts of plagiarism may result in an “F” for the course as well. Plagiarism is defined as “the act of passing as one’s own the idea or writings of another.” You are expected to avoid the possibility of even unintentional plagiarism by acknowledging all sources of your work. If you have any questions about proper citation, please do not hesitate to approach the instructor.

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction to the Course and the Pacific

June 4 (M): Course Introduction

June 5 (T): The Pacific as History

*Jerry H. Bentley, 'Sea and Ocean Basins as Frameworks of Historical Analysis,' *Geographical Review* 89 (1999), 215–24.

David Armitage and Alison Bashford, 'Introduction: The Pacific and its Histories,' in Armitage and Bashford, eds., *Pacific Histories*, pp. 1–28.

June 6 (W): Pacific Environments

*J. R. McNeill, 'Of Rats and Men: A Synoptic Environmental History of the Island Pacific,' *Journal of World History* 5 (1994), 299–349.

Ryan Tucker Jones, "The Environment," in David Armitage and Alison Bashford, eds., *Pacific Histories: Ocean, Land, People* (New York, 2014), pp. 121-142.

June 7 (R): Contemporary Uses of Pacific

Library Assignment: Using Lauinger Library (either GEORGE, the stacks, or on-line databases), find a written text (newspaper or magazine article or other printed or digital material) that uses one or more of the following terms: "Pacific," "Pacific world," "Asia-Pacific" (or Asia/Pacific, Asia Pacific, Pacific Asia), or "Pacific Rim." Bring the text to class and be prepared to discuss these terms in the context of the material you brought. The text will be handed in so please put your name on it. **You must utilize the library to find this text and you must provide the call number or database you used to find it.** Entries from Wikipedia or those found simply through a Google search will not count. We will use your texts as the basis for our first discussion.

Week 2: Early Pacific

June 11 (M): Pacific Peoples

Damon Salesa, 'The Pacific in Indigenous Time,' in Armitage and Bashford, eds., *Pacific Histories*, pp. 31–52.

*Patrick V. Kirch, 'Peopling of the Pacific: A Holistic Anthropological Perspective,' *Annual Review of Anthropology* 39 (2010), 131–48.

June 12 (T): Pacific before Empire

Joyce E. Chaplin, "The Pacific before Empire, c. 1500-1800" in Armitage and Bashford, eds. *Pacific Histories*, pp. 53-74.

*John E. Wills, "A Very Long Early Modern? Asia and Its Oceans, 1000-1850," in Lon Kurashige, ed. *Pacific America: Histories of Transoceanic Crossings* (Honolulu: University of Hawai Press, 2017), pp. 15-28.

June 13 (W): Pacific Crossings before Empire (1)

*Robert Finlay, "The Voyages of Zheng He: Ideology, State Power, and Maritime Trade in Ming China," *The Journal of the Historical Society* VIII.3 (September 2008): 327-347.

Stewart Gordon, "Treasure and Treaty: Ma Huan, 1413-1431 CE," from *When Asia was the World* (Da Capo Press, 2008), pp. 117-135.

June 14 (R): Pacific Crossings before Empire (2)

*Ma Huan (1433), "The overall survey of the ocean's shores," Translated from Chinese by Feng Ch'eng Chun, with introduction by J.V.G. Mills, pp. 76, 124-129, 137-146, 154-159, 165-178.

*Marco Polo, *The Travels of Marco Polo*, pp. 241-243, 257-259, 285-292, 307-309, 311-312.

Week 3: Imperial Pacific

June 18 (M): European Discovery of the Pacific

*Greg Bankoff, "Aeolian Empires: The Influence of Winds and Currents on European Maritime Expansion in the Days of Sail," *Environment and History* 23.2 (May 2017): 163-196.

*Antonio Pigafetta, *Magellan's Voyage: A Narrative Account of the First Circumnavigation*, Translated and edited by R.A. Skelton (New York: Dover Publications), pp. 57-90.

June 19 (T): The Age of Empire in the Pacific

Nicholas Thomas, "The Age of Empire in the Pacific," in Armitage and Bashford, eds. *Pacific Histories*, pp. 75-96.

The Journals of Captain Cook, selected and edited by Philip Edwards (London: Penguin Books), pp. 7-12, 39-82, 219-222, 319-323, 344-365,

June 20 (W): Race in the Pacific World

James Belich, "Race," in Armitage and Bashford, eds. *Pacific Histories*, pp. 263-281.

The Journals of Captain Cook, selected and edited by Philip Edwards (London: Penguin Books), pp. 427-431, 450-458, 492-537, 590-613.

June 21 (R): Establishing Power in the Pacific

Lisa Ford, "Law" in Armitage and Bashford, eds. *Pacific Histories*, pp. 216-236.

David Iglar, *The Great Ocean: Pacific Worlds from Captain Cook to the Gold Rush*, pp. 3-71.

Week 4: Pacific Currents

June 25 (M): Resource Raiding in the Pacific

David Igler, *The Great Ocean: Pacific Worlds from Captain Cook to the Gold Rush*, pp. 99-128.

*Francis Allyn Olmsted, *Incidents of a Whaling Voyage* (1841); reprinted by Rutland, VT: Charles E. Tuttle Co., 1969), pp. 19-22, 56-68, 243-263.

June 26 (T): Science in the Pacific

David Igler, *The Great Ocean: Pacific Worlds from Captain Cook to the Gold Rush*, pp. 155-185.

Sujit Sivasundaram, "Science," in Armitage and Bashford, eds. *Pacific Histories*, pp. 237-260.

June 27 (W): Pacific Movements

Adam McKeown, "Movements," in Armitage and Bashford, eds. *Pacific Histories*, pp. 143-166.

*Amy K. Stillman, "Pacific-ing Asian Pacific American History," *Journal of Asian American Studies* 7 (2004): 241-270.

June 28 (R): A Pacific Century?

Akira Iriye, "A Pacific Century?" and Kaoru Sugihara, "The Pacific Economy since 1800," in Armitage and Bashford, eds. *Pacific Histories*, pp. 97-117, 166-190.

Week 5: Last Push to Freedom

July 2 (M): Final Paper Presentations and Final Paper due in Class

July 3 (T): Review Session

July 4 (W): Independence Day Holiday

July 5 (R): Final Exam