

Fall 2024 Course Syllabus

HI 243: History of Micronesia (Tue, Th 4:00 -5:20)

Simon S. Maluwelmeng

Phone: [REDACTED]

E-mail [REDACTED]

Catalog Course Description: This course is an introduction to the traditional and western history of the Micronesian Islands.

During the course of the semester, the focus of Micronesian history will be on Republic of Belau, Federated States of Micronesia (Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap), Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Mariana Islands, and Nauru. We will cover a wide variety of historical topics, including pre-contact Micronesia, contact Micronesia, and present day Micronesia inclusive of contemporary struggles for political and cultural sovereignty throughout Micronesia.

Students will learn, understand, and interpret the histories and historiographies of:

- Micronesia's pre-colonial past with attention to navigation and settlement, inter-island interactions, social and material culture etc...;
- Contact and interactions between Micronesians and Whalers, Traders, Missionaries and, and Miners;
- Spanish, German, Japanese, and American administrations in Micronesia
- Wartime oppression and postwar imperialism in Micronesia
- Post-war economic, political, and cultural challenges throughout the region.

A project on a specific topic in Micronesia is required with a 3-5 page write up. Students must also present their project in class to share the wealth with their classmates. Topics must be approved by the instructor first.

Short quizzes will be given and be announced in advance in class.

Note: All cell phones must be turned off during class period.

Attendance will be calculated into students' final grade. *See below for the breakdown.*

Suggested readings;

Francis X. Hezel, *The First Taint of Civilization: A History of the Marshall and Caroline Islands in the Pre-Colonial Days, 1521 to 1885*; Francis X. Hezel, *Strangers in Their Own Land*; and **others** that may be announced in class.

Final grade will be based on the following:

Project-----	35%
Final exam-----	40%
Quizzes/other assignments.....	20%
Attendance	5%

TENTATIVE DAILY SCHEDULE

Date	Lecture Title
<u>Week 1:</u> Th, Aug. 15	Introduction of the course & syllabus review
<u>Week 2:</u> Tue, Aug 20 Th, Aug. 22	Myths and legends of Micronesia/islands formation Settlement in Micronesia; Micronesian roots
Week 3; Tue, Aug. 27 Th, Aug 29	Traditional social structure Traditional Education in Micronesia (myth & legend assignment due)
Week 4 Tue, Sept 3 Th, Sept 5	Cultural practices in Micronesia Navigation
Week 5 Tue, Sept 10 Th, Sept 12	The way of sawei/ Sacred grounds and spirits 1 st European contact in Micronesia
Week 6 Tue, Sept 17 Th, Sept 19	Challenging conversion; Landing of the new faith Whaling and Trading in Micronesia
Week 7 Tue, Sept 24 Th, Sept 26	German & Spanish occupation Japanese occupation
Week 8 Tue, Oct 01 Th, Oct 03	Mining in Micronesia Special topics in Micronesia
FALL SEMESTER BREAK (OCT. 7- OCT. 12)	
Week 9 Tue, Oct 15 Th, Oct 17	World War II in Micronesia Americanization of Micronesia (icon assignment due)
Week 10 Tue, Oct. 22 Th, Oct. 24	Micronesia under new direction Contemporary issues in Micronesia
Week 11 Tue, Oct. 29 ----- Th, Oct. 31-----	Nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands Open topics in Micronesia

Week 12

Tue, Nov. 05 ----- - TTPI: Trusteeship Agreement /Post war Micronesia, "Solomon Report"

Th, Nov. 07 ----- Future status of TTPI

Week 13

Tue, Nov. 12 ----- Compact Negotiation (**100 words due**)

Th, Nov. 14 ----- open (enrichment topic/students' presentation)

Week 14

Tue, Nov. 19 -----open (enrichment topic/students' presentation)

Th, Nov. 21-----open (enrichment topic/students' presentation)

Week 15

Tue Nov 26 -----open (enrichment topic/students' presentation)

Th Nov 28----- NO CLASS (THANKSGIVING)

Week 16

Tue, Dec 03-----Review

Th, Dec 05-----Last day of instruction

Dec. 10- 12 -----Exams

Dec 13-----End of Semester

Dec 15-----Commencement

