

# MI 501: PEOPLES AND CULTURES OF MICRONESIA

## Course Description and Requirements

Fanuchanan 2024

Tuesdays 5:30–8:20 PM

Instructor: Dr. Michael R. Clement jr.

Office HSS 312

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Office Hours: MW 9:00-11:00, T 1:00-3:00

**Catalog Description:** This course provides a comprehensive overview of the cultures and societies of the Micronesian area.

**Prerequisites:** admission into Micronesian Studies Program or permission of the instructor.

**Student Learning Objectives.** With the completion of this course, students will:

- 1) gain substantive knowledge of the cultures and societies of Micronesia;
- 2) gain understanding of theoretical issues important for analyzing Micronesian cultures and for understanding Micronesia from wider cross-cultural perspectives.
- 3) acquire wider bibliographic knowledge about the scholarly resources available for Micronesian studies;
- 4) improve skills in interdisciplinary analysis and in understanding real world problems from multiple disciplinary perspectives;
- 5) improve critical reading and analytic writing skills through reviews of scholarly monographs on Micronesia.

## **Requirements**

- 1) Students are required to attend all seminar meetings. More than two unexcused absences from the seminar meetings will result in a grade reduction, and excessive absences may result in loss of credit for the course.
- 2) All required and suggested readings will be made available to students at the beginning of the semester via Moodle. Students should read all required readings for each seminar prior to the seminar meeting.
- 3) Students should participate actively in seminar discussions. The success of the seminar depends on everyone's active participation in discussions, and engagement with the readings and issues.
- 4) Three book review essays (1000–1500 words). A list of recommended books for review will be distributed. Students may review books not included on the list with permission of the instructor. The first review is due September 26; the second review is due October 31; the third review is due December 12. Students will also make brief oral presentations in class (10 minutes) giving a synopsis of the book and their review.

## **Evaluation and grading**

Students will be evaluated on the basis of:

- 1) Participation in seminars and Moodle Forums(40%): students should demonstrate through their questions and seminar discussions that they have thoroughly and critically studied the readings;
- 2) Three book review essays (15% each): evaluations will be based on logical organization and presentation of ideas; accuracy, thoroughness, and knowledge of material; clarity of writing; and evidence of critical thinking;
- 3) Three 10 minute oral presentations to the class (5% each), giving a synopsis of the book review essays: factual command of the material, ability to synthesize and summarize main points

## **Readings**

This course requires no textbooks for purchase. Copies of all required readings and listed recommended readings will be made available as PDF files to students via Moodle at the beginning of the semester. It is recommended that you download and save copies of the readings, if you wish to have access to them after the course ends, or in the event that UOG Moodle site cannot be accessed during the semester.

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism will be dealt with in accordance with the Student Handbook. The UOG Student Handbook(p. 49) defines plagiarism as:

*The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to the use by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.*

## **Statement on Discrimination**

The University is committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our community free of all forms of discrimination and harassment in all programs, activities and employment practices as required by Title VII and Title IX and other applicable statutes and policies. If you experience harassment or discrimination, report it immediately to the Director of EEO/ADA & TITLE IX Office, at 671-735-2244, 671-735-2971, TDD 671-735-2243 or [eeo-ada@triton.uog.edu](mailto:eeo-ada@triton.uog.edu). For immediate assistance in an emergency call 911.

For individuals covered under the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act), if you are a student with a disability requiring academic accommodation(s), please contact the Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodations Office to discuss your confidential request. Please provide an accommodation letter from the Disability Support Services/Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodation counselor. To register for academic accommodations, please contact or visit the Student Center, Rotunda office #6, [disabilitysupport@triton.uog.edu](mailto:disabilitysupport@triton.uog.edu) or telephone/(TDD) 671-735-2460. For applicants or employees with a disability requiring employment or workplace accommodation(s), please contact the Director of EEO/ADA & TITLE IX Office to discuss your specific needs. Please provide documentation concerning your disability and the need for employment or workplace accommodation.

Our office is located at the Iya Hami Hall, Dorm 2, right side entrance, first floor, Room 104 and our contact numbers are indicated above.

# Fanuchanan 2024 — Supplementary Syllabus Statements

## Online etiquette

Occasionally, class may be held via Zoom. In order to make the Zoom sessions as smooth, effective, and participatory as possible, I ask you to conform to several points of etiquette:

- Please mute your microphone when you're not speaking.
- Please leave your video on.
- When you wish to speak, please raise your hand or use the Raise Hand button
- Please respect each other and not interrupt another person's talk

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## COVID Statement

The University of Guam is experiencing continued disruption to delivery of instruction during the global coronavirus pandemic. The University will follow executive orders and may be forced to close again, causing more modifications as the semester progresses. All changes will be posted on the UOG website at <https://www.uog.edu/covid-19/>

- Contact OIT for technical support at 735-2630 or [oit@triton.uog.edu](mailto:oit@triton.uog.edu)
- Contact the Triton Advising Center at 735 – 2271 or [tac@triton.uog.edu](mailto:tac@triton.uog.edu)
- Contact Isa Psychological Services center at 735-2883 or [isa@triton.uog.edu](mailto:isa@triton.uog.edu)

In face-to-face courses, wearing masks and social distancing is required. Anyone who has a fever, or any other symptom, should stay home. If you do not comply with these directions, you will be asked to leave, and if you do not, class will be cancelled. Patience, respect, and cooperation are needed from all of us to persist through these uncomfortable times.

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## No Recording Policy

Recording of online class meetings is not allowed. Not only is the delivery of course content the intellectual property of the instructor, but students enrolled in the course have privacy rights. Unauthorized recording and distribution of online courses may violate federal law.

# MI 501: PEOPLES AND CULTURES OF MICRONESIA

## Matrix of Institutional, Program, and Student Learning Objectives

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UNIVERSITY OF GUAM INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES	MICRONESIAN STUDIES PROGRAM LEARNING OBJECTIVES	MI 501 STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES (linkages to ILOs and PLOs)	METHODS OF ASSESSMENT
1. Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving	1. Mastery of understanding of and the ability of students to identify, discuss, analyze and write about a wide range of topics dealing with the history, culture, people, identity, economic activity, geography, politics, art, religion, social organization, and gender roles of Micronesia and the interdisciplinary interpretation of them.	1. Gain substantive knowledge of the cultures and societies of Micronesia. (ILO 4, 5, 6, 7; PLO 1, 2, 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active participation in seminar discussions, demonstrating careful and critical reading of the assigned materials.</li> <li>Performance on weekly quizzes</li> </ul>
2. Mastery of quantitative analysis	2. Mastery of the understanding of and the ability of students to identify, discuss, analyze and write about the diverse historical encounters of missionization, colonialism, militarism, economic development, and disputes over political and cultural sovereignty and identity that have faced Micronesia.	2. Gain understanding of theoretical issues important for analyzing Micronesian cultures and for understanding Micronesia from wider cross-cultural perspectives. (ILO 1, 2; PLO 4, 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active participation in seminar discussions.</li> <li>Demonstrating critical thinking in three assigned book reviews.</li> </ul>
3. Effective oral and written communication	3. Mastery of understanding of and the ability of students to identify, discuss, analyze and write about the major theories, issues, and research in the study of social issues and social problems of Micronesia	3. Acquire wider bibliographic knowledge about the scholarly resources available for Micronesian studies. (ILO 4, 5, 6, 7; PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performance on weekly quizzes.</li> <li>Active participation in seminar discussions.</li> </ul>
4. Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas, and values in a democratic context	4. Mastery of the understanding of the role of theory in Micronesian Studies, such that the student will be able to define theory and describe its role in generating knowledge, and be able to compare and contrast basic theoretical perspectives, and to synthesize and/or design a set of theoretical paradigms.	4. Improve skills in interdisciplinary analysis and in understanding real world problems from multiple disciplinary perspectives. (ILO 1, 4, 5, 6, 7; PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active participation in seminar discussions.</li> <li>Demonstrating critical thinking in three assigned book reviews and oral presentations in class.</li> </ul>
5. Responsible use of knowledge, natural resources, and technology	5. Mastery of the understanding of and the ability of students to utilize the role of empirical evidence and the application of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies in collecting data, the ability to formulate and design research methodologies, conduct independent research, collect and analyze data, interpret evidence and arguments, and analyze, synthesize and present data in a scholarly manner.	5. Improve critical reading and analytic writing skills through reviews of scholarly monographs on Micronesia. ILO 1, 3, 6, 7; PLO 1, 2, 3, 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three written book reviews and short class presentations of the reviews, demonstrating (1) logical organization and presentation of ideas; (2) accuracy, thoroughness, and knowledge of material; (3) clarity of writing; and (4) evidence of critical thinking.</li> </ul>
6. An appreciation of the arts and sciences			
7. An interest in personal development and lifelong learning			