# UNIVERSITY OF GUAM College of Liberal Arts and Science(CLASS)

# Traditional Navigation Course Syllabus

COURSE #CM 332-01/ MI 599

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**INSTRUCTOR** 

Spring 25

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will introduce basic understanding on the concept of the Micronesian traditional navigation as part of the seafaring system. This system includes an array of indigenous knowledge and skills taught in the canoe house, beginning with basic understanding of the living environment, to the highly specialized skills in canoe building, traditional healing, weather predictions, and traditional navigation. In training to become a navigator, one has to learn other affiliated skills that are critical to become a navigator. A navigator can't navigate without a canoe, and a canoe can't be built without understanding the trees. These skills are therefore inter-dependent.

Emphasis of this course will be on the role a navigator plays in seafaring. The course content will include genealogy of Weriyeng navigation as we know it today through the estate of Haboilol in Polowat. The basic understanding of the sidereal "star compass", of star constellations and those used in navigation. Students will learn the names of the stars and identify them through star gazing. These are stars that that are used on the thirty-two reference points on the star compass as well as other stars that are used in navigation to predict weather conditions. Basic understanding of wave and wind patterns will also be taught during the class. The concept of wayfinding using methods "hamat", wofanu, pugof, and etak. Videos on related topic will also be shown during some class sessions. Students taking reading course MI599 for MSP will have added workload on the course.

#### COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES, PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS AND UOG LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Student Learning Objectives (SLOs)	Micronesian Seafaring Program Learning Goals (PLOs)	UOG Learning Objectives (ILOs)
Upon completion of the course, students will  Be familiar with principles, terminology and concepts in basic and indigenous technology of the Micronesian seafaring system.  Students will have a better understanding of the Micronesian star compass, basic navigational skills and recognize navigational elements include ocean swells, marine lives, clouds, etc.  -to be assessed using in-class activities, exams, and project	Basic understanding of navigation system and the sacred knowledge affiliated with it such as canoe house and canoe building, navigation, basic understanding of ocean and land environment	UOG1: Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving UOG2: Mastery of quantitative analysis, UOG5: Responsible use of knowledge, natural resources, and technology UOG7: An interest in personal development and lifelong learning  UOG1: Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving UOG2: Mastery of quantitative analysis

Develop general skills in survival at seas including how canoe maintenance at seas.  -to be assessed using in-class activities, exams, and project	Understanding of stars, ocean, and concept of Etak, traditional wayfinding.	UOG1: Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving UOG2: Mastery of quantitative analysis, and UOG5: Responsible use of knowledge, natural resources, and technology UOG7: An interest in personal development and lifelong learning
Perform hands on activities in selected	Memorized and recognizes stars and constellations used in navigation	UOG3: Effective oral and written communication
-to be assessed using project outcome		UOG1: Mastery of critical thinking and
		problem solving
		UOG2: Mastery of quantitative analysis

CLASS MEETING: SAT/12-2:55

**OFFICE HOURS**: 24/7 by cell 488-8705

# **SUGGESTED and some REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

This course requires no textbook for purchase. However, reading PDF materials or other hard copy documents related to this course will be provided to students through moodle or during class throughout the course period.

# PREREQUISITES:

This course is an introductory overview of the principles and application of indigenous knowledge and skills and in particular that of the indigenous Micronesian seafaring system with emphasis on the canoe house. As such and while it is not a prerequisite, it is recommended that students would have had some knowledge of Micronesian region and culture. Students who have taken previous courses offered in traditional navigation and climate change adaptation will find this course useful and most relevant. The following courses, while not required, will also be useful in taking this course

HI 211- History of Guam

HI 243- History of Micronesia

MI 599

Other Micronesia courses under Chamorro study program and Micronesian study program.

#### **GRADING:**

30% Attendance

20% Professionalism & Participation

30% Quizzes/Project

20% Final Exam

A=90-100%

B=80-90%

C=70-80%

D=60-70%

F=60% or below

Note: Attendance is mandatory and vital to passing this class. If a student does not attend class they will not get credit for participation as well. You will fail this class if attendance is poor. All students are expected to arrive on time.

### **CLASS REQUIREMENTS & EXPECTATIONS:**

- Students will be expected to have the following for personal safety measure; safety goggles, earplugs, closed toe shoes preferably steel
  toe during field class.
- Personal phones: During lectures, phones are to be turned off and stored, Silent Mode will not suffice.
- Smart devices will not be allowed during class. All smart devices will be treated as phones and are expected to be off and out of reach.
- Late entry to class will not be a normal practice.
- Leaving the room during class (other than during a break) is disruptive and will not be allowed.

- Attire: Hats and sunglasses are not to be worn during class except on field visit and outside workshops. Appropriate work clothes for outside activities are recommended. Traditional attire is also welcome
- Professional conduct is expected and mandated. Unprofessional behavior, disruptions during class or other unwanted behavior will not be tolerated. These include, but are not limited to
  - Disruptive outbursts
  - Unprofessional language
  - Disrespectful language and behavior
  - Unwarranted student to student side conversations
  - Sleeping, not paying attention
- Make-up tests are not to be expected but will be given where circumstances dictate and approved by the instructor.
- Cheating is not allowed and will be grounds for a request for dismissal from the University.

# **ADA POLICY**

If you are a student with a disability who will require an accommodation(s) to participate in this course, please contact me or the Institutional Compliance Officer privately of your specific needs. You will need to provide me with documentation concerning your need for accommodation(s) from the EEO/ADA & TITLT IX Office. If you have not registered with the EEO/ADA & TITLE IX Office, you should do so immediately at 735-2244, (TTY) 735-2243 to coordinate your accommodation request

<sup>\*</sup> If there are any circumstances that mandate these requirements not to be followed, please inform the instructor prior to class.

<sup>\*</sup>Consideration will be given to emergencies on a case-by-case basis on all items above.