

History 492 Eighteenth-Century Pacific Worlds

Fall Semester 2010

Prof. Rainer Buschmann (rbuschma@purdue.edu)

Office: University Hall 322, 494-4122

Meeting Times and Place: TTH, 1:30-2:45, REC 117

Office Hours: TTH 3-5 or by appointment

Course Description: In the eighteenth century a confluence of political and scientific endeavors triggered a concerted European exploration of the largest geographical feature on earth: the Pacific Ocean. Our course will explore the historical implications resulting from these ventures to the Pacific. As a reading seminar, you will interpret important primary and secondary sources in connection with these eighteenth-century voyages. A final paper enables you to explore a particular island group or European voyage in greater detail. Prominent topics to be considered in our class will include: The impact of Europeans on Oceania and the wider Pacific Rim and the transformations of European intellectual outlooks resulting from the uncovering of the Pacific Ocean.

Participation and Attendance: Regular and timely attendance of all class meetings is a main requirement of the class. Attendance also requires that you do all the readings indicated on the syllabus. Be prepared to engage class discussions as much of your grade depends on it. There are no excused absences without proper documentation (e.g., medical excuse). Four unexcused absences will result in the loss of 50 points from your course total. Six or more unexcused absences will result in a failing grade for the class.

Short Discussion Paper: During our discussion sessions you are required to write a short (one-page) paper on the readings listed on the syllabus. The paper should assist you with class participation. The paper should list two discussion questions drawn from the articles and chapters assigned for the corresponding week. Each question should be followed by an extensive paragraph outlining a possible answer to your query. Only eight assignments will be graded. The assignment is due at the beginning of class (Tuesday) and will be collected promptly. You have to hand in the discussion paper in person and I will accept no electronic submission (via e-mail or otherwise).

Leading Discussions: During one particular session of your choice you will be asked to facilitate in-class discussion. In other words, you are responsible for **all** of the readings assigned that week. Make sure to prepare a good number of relevant questions to assist you in the task. Keep in mind that your discussion questions do not replace the short paper.

Term Paper and Associated Assignments: The main objective of this course is to write a paper of about 20-25 pages in length (please note that the bibliography does not count toward the page total). To prepare you for this assignment, you have to hand in a paper proposal and associated bibliography on the date indicated in this syllabus. For your paper, I would like you to select a particular expedition (e.g., Bougainville or La Perouse) or a particular island or island group (e.g., Hawai'i or Tonga) and discuss the cultural

implications and interactions emerging from the encounters between Europeans and indigenous people. The due date for the final paper is December 14th at noon, but you may hand it in earlier.

A note on computers and hand-held devices: As a courtesy to others please turn off your cell phones during class time. Computers may be used for note taking purposes only. If you decide to use the computer for any other purpose, you will lose your privilege immediately.

Grading is based on a point scale. The breakdown is as follows:

Final Term Paper	120 points
Participation and Attendance	100points
Proposal and Annotated Bibliography	50 points
Leading Discussion	50 points
8 small papers	80 points
<hr/>	
Total	400 points

Grading Scale:

400 - 395 = A+; 394 – 370 = A; 371 - 360 = A- 359 - 350 = B+
349-330 = B 329-320; = B- 319-310 = C+; 309-291 = C
289-280 = C-; 279-270 = D+; 269-240 = D; Less than 240 = F

Required Text: Philip Edwards ed., *The Journals of Captain Cook* (New York: Penguin Classics, 2000). Additional readings are posted to your blackboard site associated with this course.

Cheating / Plagiarism:

Plagiarism refers to the reproduction of another's words or ideas without proper attribution. University Regulations contains further information on dishonesty. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious offenses, and will be treated as such in this class. You are expected to produce your own work and to accurately cite all necessary materials. Cheating, plagiarism, and other dishonest practices will be punished as harshly as Purdue University policies allow. Any instances of academic dishonesty will likely result in a grade of F for the course and notification of the Dean of Students Office.

Disclaimer:

In the event of a major campus emergency, the above and below stated requirements, deadlines and grading policies are subject to changes that may be required by a revised semester calendar. Any such changes in this course will be posted once the course resumes on Blackboard or can be obtained by contacting the professor via email or phone.

Tentative Course Schedule:

Week 1 (August 24-26): Introduction

Week 2 (August 31-September 2): The Dual Discovery of the Pacific

Read: Rainer Buschmann, *Oceans in World History* (Boston: McGraw-Hill 2007), 68-99

Week 3 (Sept. 7-9): The mythical Pacific:

Read: Bronwen Douglas, "Terra Australis to Oceania," *Journal of Pacific History* 45 (2010): forthcoming; "The Northwest Passage" in John Dunmore ed. *The Journal of Jean-François de Galaup de la Pérouse Vol I* (London: Hakluyt Society, 1994), xxx-xxxviii; Glyndwr Williams and Alan Frost, "Terra Australis: Theory and Speculation." In Williams & Frost eds., *Terra Australis to Australia* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1988), 1-38 (pages missing in your copy are illustrations that have been omitted due to space constraints)

Week 4 (Sept. 14-16): New Diplomatic Frontiers

Read: Glyndwr Williams, *The Expansion of Europe in the Eighteenth Century: Overseas Rivalry, Discoveries, and Exploration* (New York: Walker and Company, 1966), 73-97, 151-184

Week 5 (Sept. 21-23): The Manilla Galleon Trade

Read: Flynn and Giráldez "Born with a 'Silver Spoon': The Origin of World Trade in 1571" *Journal of World History* 6 (1995): 201-221; Peter A Coclans. "Pacific Overtures: The Spanish Lake and the Global Economy, 1500-1800," *Common Place*, no pagination; William Lytle Schurz "The Spanish Lake," *The Spanish American Historical Review* 5 (1922), 181-194.

Week 6 (Sept 28-30): New Scientific Horizons

Read: Richard Sorrenson, "The Ship as Instrument in the Eighteenth Century," *Osiris* 11 (1996): 221-236; Derek Howse, *Greenwich Time and the Discovery of Longitude* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1980), 4-79.

Week 7 (Oct. 5-7): Exploration before James Cook

Read: Harold Carter, "The Royal Society and the Voyage of HMS 'Endeavour' 1768-1771, *Notes and Records of the Royal Society of London* 49 (1995): 245-260; G. E. Fogg, "The Royal Society and the South Seas" *Notes and Records of the Royal Society of London* 55 (2001): 81-103; "The Secret Instructions" in Robert E. Gallagher ed. *Byron's Journal of His Circumnavigation, 1764-1766* (Cambridge: Hakluyt Society, 1964), 1- 9.

Week 8 (Oct. 12-14): Cook: First Voyage

October 12 is a holiday.

Read: Edwards 7-212

Week 9 (Oct. 19-21): Cook: First and Second Voyage
Read: Edwards, 213-422

Week 10 (Oct 26-28): Cook: Second and Third Voyage
Read: Edwards, 423-613

Week 11 (Nov. 2-4): Cook Third Voyage
November 4th is research day

Week 12 (Nov. 9-11): Cook's voyages and beyond
November 11th discussion guided by Professor Marja van Tilburg of Groenigen University
Readings: TBA

Week 13 (Nov. 16-18): Paper proposal and bibliography due Paper discussion
Your paper proposal and annotated bibliography is due this week

Week 14 (Nov. 23-25): Research week and **Thanksgiving Break**

Week 15 (Nov 30-Dec 2): Tahiti I: The Primary Evidence
Read: "The Noble Savage" in Richard Lansdown, *Strangers in the South Seas* (Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2006), 64-87; John Hope Mason and Robert Wokler eds., *Denis Diderot: Political Writings* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1992), xv-xxi, 35-75.

Week 16 (Dec. 7-9): Tahiti II: The Secondary Evidence
Read: Andy Marten, "The Enlightenment in Paradise: Bougainville, Tahiti, and the Duty of Desire" *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 41 (2008): 203-216; Sharon A. Stanley, "Unraveling Natural Utopia: Diderot's Supplement to the Voyage of Bougainville," *Political Theory* 37 (2009): 266-289; Anne Salmond, "Their Body is Different, Our Body is Different: European and Tahitian Navigators in the 18th Century," *History and Anthropology* 16 (2005): 167-186.

Paper due December 14th at noon (no exceptions)