

Troubled Islands of the Indo-Pacific: GU4822 (Spring 2017)

Wednesday 2.10pm-4pm in Philosophy H507

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Office hours: Thursday 10am-12pm, IAB #933

Course Goals: In this course you will explore the connections between global and local currents of historical change - with specific reference to a series of island case studies from throughout the Indo-Pacific region, loosely conceived. In the first part of the course we will discuss broad themes including the concept of the island in comparative intellectual thought, islands as scientific laboratories, and how islands are effected by phenomena such as trade, migration, imperialism and colonialism. In the second part of the course we will examine a series of case studies - Polynesia, Okinawa/Ryukyu, Jeju-do, Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong - contextualizing a range of historical and contemporary primary sources and exploring the past's continuing impact on society and politics today. By the end of the course you will have learned to think about East Asian history from beyond the usual nation state centric perspective, and instead consider particular instances of historical causation within local, comparative, transnational and global frameworks.

Requirements and Evaluation:

1. Regular class attendance and active participation in discussion, informed by solid preparation. One unavoidable absence may be excused, but in such cases please contact me beforehand and arrange to submit notes or otherwise respond to the content of the missed class. (30%)
2. **Courseworks postings** each week (**due by 6pm the Tuesday before class**) and **brief presentations** on selected readings. The Courseworks postings should be 200-300 words (no longer than a page) and will discuss specific aspects of the primary source(s) in connection with at least one of the other readings. Each student will also give one **book presentation** on one of the selected texts listed on the syllabus. These will be no longer than five minutes, and will summarize the content and points of interest in that reading for those who have not read it. (30%)
3. **Two papers** to be submitted as a hard copy in 407 Kent Hall AND as an emailed attachment. (Electronic submission alone is not acceptable.) If an extension has not been requested and granted in advance, overdue papers will lose one-half letter grade for each day they are late. (40%)
 - i. A short response to one of the source readings, illustrating through specific quotation and analysis how it relates to specific themes discussed in class. **3-5 pp. (1500 words max), due Sunday 19th February by 11.59 PM.** (10%)
 - ii. Write a case study focussing on a specific island or group of islands, discussing both what is particular about its past and what is representative of broader historical processes. Include an annotated bibliography. **10-12 pp. (3600 words max), due Friday 12th May by 11.59 PM.** (30%)

Readings

Each class session involves common reading from primary and secondary sources, and a presentation on a selected secondary source. (**Primary sources are highlighted in bold.**) All of these readings will be made available on the Courseworks site; you are expected to bring copies to class (especially of the primary sources) to refer to during discussion. There is no one course textbook assigned, but for further background reading, please consult the following general surveys, **on reserve at the C.V. Starr East Asian Library**:

- Bayly, Christopher, *The Birth of the Modern World, 1780-1914*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2003.
- Darwin, John. *Unfinished Empire: The Global Expansion of Britain*. Penguin, 2013.
- Ebrey, Patricia and Anne Walthall, *Modern East Asia Since 1600: A Cultural, Social and Political History*. Cengage, 3rd Edition, 2013.
- Frank, Andre Gunder *ReORIENT: Global Economy in the Asian Age*. Berkeley, 1998.
- Mason, Michele and Helen Lee. *Reading Colonial Japan: Text, Context, and Critique*. Stanford University Press, 2012. [e-book available via CLIO]
- Matsuda, Matt K. *Pacific Worlds: A History of Seas, Peoples, and Cultures*. Cambridge University Press, 2012.
- Osterhammel, Jürgen. *The Transformation of the World: A Global History of the Nineteenth Century*. Princeton University Press, 2014.
- Rosenberg, Emily S. *A World Connecting*. Harvard University Press, 2012.
- Thomas, Nicholas. *Islanders: The Pacific in the Age of Empire*. Yale Press, 2010.
- Waley-Cohen, Joanna. *The Sextants of Beijing: Global Currents in Chinese History*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1999.

Academic Integrity Statement

Students are expected to do their own work on all tests and assignments for this class and act in accordance with the Faculty Statement on Academic Integrity and Honor Code established by the students of Columbia College and the School of General Studies. Because any academic integrity violation undermines our intellectual community, students found to have cheated, plagiarized, or committed any other act of academic dishonesty can expect [specify academic sanction] and may be referred to the Dean's Discipline process.

It is students' responsibility to ensure their work maintains the standards expected and should you have any questions or concerns regarding your work, you can:

- Talk with your TA
- Ask the instructor
- Refer to the Columbia University Undergraduate Guide to Academic Integrity.

Disability Accommodation Statement:

If you have been certified by Disability Services (DS) to receive accommodations, please either bring your accommodation letter from DS to your professor's office hours to confirm your accommodation needs, or ask your liaison in GSAS to consult with your professor. If you believe that you may have a disability that requires accommodation, please contact Disability Services at 212-854-2388 or disability@columbia.edu.

Important: To request and receive an accommodation you must be certified by DS.

SCHEDULE

Week 1 (January 18th) Introduction:

- Goals and structure of this course
- Where is the Indo-Pacific?

Week 2 (January 25th) Islands:

- **Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels Part 3, Ch.9-11* (Proquest [ebrary](#))**
- **Yukokushi [aka Takizawa Bakin], *Strange Tales of Foreign Lands, 1774*, (trans. Basil Hall Chamberlain in [Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan](#), 1879 pp.285-308)**
- Epeli Hau'ofa, "Our Sea of Islands" in *Contemporary Pacific*, 1994
- Sujit Sivasundaram, Sujit Sivasundaram, *Islanded: Britain, Sri Lanka, and the Bounds of an Ocean Colony*. Chicago, 2013: Introduction
- Vicente Diaz, "No Island is an Island" in *Native Studies Keywords*, 2015.
- John Gillis, "Islands in the Making of an Atlantic Oceania, 1500-1800", in Jerry Bentley, Renate Bridenthal, and Kären Wigen, eds. *Seascapes: Maritime Histories, Littoral Cultures and Transoceanic Exchanges* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2007).

Week 3 (February 1st) Natural Laboratories:

- **Louise de Bougainville (trans. John Reinhold Forster.), *Voyage Around the World, 1766-1769*. London, 1772: extract on Tahiti pp.242-268**
- **Kunakida Doppo, "The Shores of the Sorachi River" in Mason & Lee, Ch.1**
- Richard H. Grove, *Green Imperialism: Colonial Expansion, Tropical Island Edens and the Origins of Environmentalism, 1600-1860* (Cambridge University Press, 1996-03-29) Ch.5 "Protecting the Climate of Paradise: Pierre Poivre and the conservation of Mauritius" pp.168-263
- Jared Diamond, *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed* (Penguin (Non-Classics), 2005-12-27): Ch.2, Ch.9
- BOOK PRESENTATION:
 - Drayton, Richard. *Nature's Government: Science, Imperial Britain, and the "Improvement" of the World*. Yale University Press, 2000 OR
 - Cushman, Gregory T. *Guano and the Opening of the Pacific World: A Global Ecological History*. Cambridge University Press, 2013 OR
 - Kerry R. Howe, *Nature, Culture, and History: The "knowing" of Oceania*. University of Hawaii Press, 2000 OR
 - Kull, Christian A., *Isle of Fire, the Political Ecology of Landscape Burning in Madagascar*. Chicago, 2004.

Week 4 (February 8th) Sovereignty:

- **Hugo Grotius, extract from *mare liberum* (Armitage Intro + ch.1-5)**
- **Qianlong Emperor's letter to George III, 1793**
- Clulow, Adam. "The Art of Claiming: Possession and Resistance in Early Modern Asia." *The American Historical Review* 121, no. 1 (2016): 17–38.
- Lauren Benton, "Legal Spaces of Empire: Piracy and the Origins of Ocean Regionalism" in *Comparative Studies of History and Society* 47:4 (2005)
- Par Cassel, "Extraterritoriality in China: What We Know and What We Don't Know." In *Treaty Ports in Modern China*, edited by Robert Bickers and Isabella Jackson. London: Routledge, forthcoming
- BOOK PRESENTATION:
 - Cassel, Pär Kristoffer. *Grounds of Judgment: Extraterritoriality and Imperial Power in Nineteenth-Century China and Japan* (Oxford Studies in International History). Oxford University Press, 2012 OR
 - Benton, Lauren. *A Search for Sovereignty: Law and Geography in European Empires, 1400-1900*. Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Week 5 (February 15th) Entrepôts:

- ~~King Vajiravudh, "The Jews of the Orient," (Bangkok: Siam Observer, July 1914)~~
- **Richard Cocks description of Li Dan in Anthony Farrington (1991) p.136, p.350, p.381, p.419, p.488**
- Tony Ballantyne, "Mobility, Empire, Colonisation" in David Cannadine, ed. *Empire, the Sea and Global History: Britain's Maritime World, c.1760-c.1840* (2007)
- Wang Gungwu, "Merchants Without Empires: The Hokkien Sojourning Communities" in *China and the Chinese Overseas* (1991), pp. 79-102
- Mark Frost, 'Emporium in imperio: Nanyang networks and the Straits Chinese in Singapore, 1819-1914' in *Journal of South East Asian Studies* (2005)
- Peter Shapinsky, "With the Sea as Their Domain: Pirates and Maritime Lordship in Medieval Japan" in Bentley, Bridenthal & Wigen
- In Our Time, "The V.O.C." (BBC Radio 4 podcast)
- <http://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/1647216/hong-kongs-long-history-brits-arrived>
- BOOK PRESENTATION:
 - Leon Blussé, *Visible Cities: Canton, Nagasaki, and Batavia and the Coming of the Americans*. Harvard, 2006 OR
 - Gang Zhao, *The Qing Opening to the Ocean: Chinese Maritime Policies, 1684-1757* OR
 - Xing Hang, *Conflict and Commerce in Maritime East Asia: The Zheng Family and the Shaping of the Modern World, C. 1620-1720*. Cambridge University Press, 2016 OR
 - Adam Clulow, *The Company and the Shogun: The Dutch Encounter With Tokugawa Japan* (Columbia University Press, 2014)

Week 6 (February 22nd) Migration:

- **Franklin Odo, *Voices from the Canefields: Folksongs from Japanese Immigrant Workers in Hawai'i* (2013): Introduction, [songs on companion website](#)** Username: Japanese / Password: Pacific
- Amrith, Sunil S. *Crossing the Bay of Bengal: The Furies of Nature and the Fortunes of Migrants*. Harvard University Press, 2013: Ch.4 “Human Traffic” & Ch.5 “Ocean’s Crossroads”
- McKeown, Adam. “Conceptualizing Chinese Diasporas, 1842 to 1949.” *The Journal of Asian Studies* 58, no. 02 (1999): 306–37.
- McKeown, Adam. “The Social Life of Chinese Labor,” In *Chinese Circulations: Capital, Commodities and Networks in Southeast Asia*, edited by Eric Tagliacozzo and Wen Ching Chang, Durham: Duke University Press, 2011.
- Ngai, Mae M. *Impossible Subjects* Ch.4: “From Colonial Subject to Undesirable Alien: Filipino Migration in the Invisible Empire”
- [Ngai, Mae M. “Why Trump is Making Muslims the New Chinese” \(CNN, 1 February 2017\)](#)
- Sahlins, Marshall [“Cosmologies of capitalism: the trans-Pacific sector of the world system”](#), *Proceedings of the British Academy* 74 (1988), 1-51
- ~~Russell, Lynette, 'The singular transcultural space': Networks of ships, mariners, voyagers and 'native' men at sea, 1790-1870', in Jane Carey and Jane Lydon eds. *Indigenous Networks: Mobility, Connections and Exchange* (2014), pp. 97-113.~~
- BOOK PRESENTATION: McKeown, Adam M. *Melancholy Order: Asian Migration and the Globalization of Borders*. Columbia University Press, 2008 OR
- Ngai, Mae M. *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*. Princeton University Press, 2004.

Week 7 (March 1st) Nation and Empire:

- **“Hokkaido Former Natives Protection Law” in Mason and Lee, Ch.2**
- **Sato Haruo, “Demon Bird” in Mason and Lee, Ch.4**
- Jun Uchida, "From Island Nation to Oceanic Empire: A Vision of Japanese Expansion from the Periphery" in *The Journal of Japanese Studies*, 42:1, Winter 2016, pp. 57-90
- Jordan Sand, [“Imperial Japan as a Contact Zone”](#) in *The Asia Pacific Journal* 12.10.4, (3 March 2014)
- Lauren Benton, *A Search for Sovereignty*. Cambridge, 2010. Chapter 4: “Island Chains: Military Law and Convict Transportation”
- Fujitani, Takashi. *Race for Empire* Intro
- BOOK PRESENTATION:
 - Walker, Brett L. *The Conquest of Ainu Lands: Ecology and Culture in Japanese Expansion, 1590-1800*. University of California Press, 2006
 - Aparna Vaidik, *Imperial Andamans: Colonial Encounter and Island History* (Springer, 2010)

Week 8 (March 8th) Polynesia:

- ~~King Kalakaua letter to Meiji Emperor~~
- **King Kalakaua's Tour Round the World: A Sketch of Incidents of Travel** (P.C. Advertiser Co., 1881): visit to Japan, China, Siam and Singapore pp.33-68 [[fully viewable on google books](#)]
- Damon Salesa, "The Pacific in Indigenous Time" in Armitage and Bashford eds. *Pacific Histories: Ocean, Land, People* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014)
- Lisa Ford on Pacific Sovereignty in Armitage and Bashford (eds.), *Pacific Histories*
- ~~J. Kelly, "Gaze and Grasp: Plantations, Desires, Indentured Indians and Colonial Law in Fiji," in Lenore Manderson and Margaret Jolly (eds), *Sites of Desire, Economies of Pleasure: Sexualities in Asia and the Pacific* (Chicago, 1997), pp. 72-98~~
- Banner, Stuart. "Preparing to be Colonized: Land Tenure and Legal Strategy in Nineteenth-Century Hawaii." *Law & Society Review* 39, no. 2 (2005): 273–314.
- Coll Thrush, *Indigenous London*. Yale, 2016. Ch.5
- BOOK PRESENTATION:
 - Morgan, William Michael. *Pacific Gibraltar: U.S.-Japanese Rivalry Over the Annexation of Hawai'i, 1885-1898*. Naval Institute Press, 2011 OR
 - Thomas, Nicholas. *Islanders: The Pacific in the Age of Empire*. Yale University Press, 2010.

SPRING RECESS - NO CLASS MARCH 15TH

Week 9 (March 22nd) Ryūkyū/Okinawa:

- **Mabuni Choshin, "White Ryukyuan Tombs" (1910) in Bhowmik and Rabson, *Islands of Protest: Japanese Literature from Okinawa* (2016)**
- **Ikemiyagi Sekiho, "Officer Ukuma" in Mason & Lee, Ch.3**
- **Haruko Taya Cook and Theodore F. Cook, *Japan At War: An Oral History* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2000-12-07) pp.354-372**
- Gregory Smits, "New Cultures, New Identities: Becoming Okinawan and Japanese in 19th-Century Ryukyu." Forthcoming in Peter Nosco, James E. Ketelaar, and Yasunori Kojima, eds., *Values, Identity, and Equality in 18th- and 19th-Century Japan*. Brill, 2015.
- David Tobaru Obermiller, "Dreaming Ryukyu: Shifting and Contesting Identities in Okinawa" in Gerteis, Christopher and Timothy George. *Japan Since 1945: From Postwar to Post-Bubble*. London: Bloomsbury, 2012.
- BOOK PRESENTATION: Gregory Smits, *Visions of Ryukyu: Identity and Ideology in Early Modern Thought and Politics* (1999)

Week 10 (March 29th) Jeju-do:

- **Jeju 4.3 Incident Investigation Report: Summary & Conclusion**
- Merrill, John. "The Cheju-do Rebellion." *The Journal of Korean Studies* 2 (1980): 139-197.

- "Internal Warfare in Korea, 1948-1950: The Local Setting of the Korean War" in Bruce Cumings, ed. *Child of Conflict: The Korean-American Relationship, 1943-1953*
- Tessa Morris-Suzuki, Guarding the Borders of Japan: Occupation, Korean War and Frontier Controls, *The Asia-Pacific Journal* Vol 9, Issue 8 No 3, February 21, 2011.
- Tessa Morris-Suzuki, "Remembering the Unfinished Conflict: Museums and the Contested Memory of the Korean War," *The Asia-Pacific Journal*, Vol. 29-4-09, July 27, 2009.
- BOOK PRESENTATION:
 - Hun Joon Kim, *The Massacres at Mt Halla: Sixty Years of Truth Seeking in South Korea* (Cornell 2014) OR
 - **Jeju 4.3 Incident Investigation Report** [in its entirety!] OR
 - Morris-Suzuki, Tessa. *Borderline Japan: Frontier Controls, Foreigners and the Nation in the Postwar Era*. Cambridge University Press, 2010 OR
 - Watt, Lori. *When Empire Comes Home: Repatriation and Reintegration in Postwar Japan*. Harvard University Press, 2010.

Week 11 (April 5th) Singapore:

- **TV footage of Lee Kwan Yew announcing Singapore-Malaya partition**
- **Lee Kwan Yew obituaries in the *Straits Times* and the *New York Times***
- **Amos Yee video and controversy**
- **Indonesia air pollution news coverage**
- A.J. Stockwell (1987) "Insurgency and Decolonisation during the Malayan Emergency", *The Journal of Commonwealth & Comparative Politics*, 25:1, 71-81
- Wen Qing-Ngeoi, "The Domino Logic of the Darkest Moment: The Fall of Singapore, the Atlantic Echo Chamber, and 'Chinese Penetration' in U.S. Cold War Policy toward Southeast Asia", in *Journal of American-East Asian Relations*, 21:3, 215 – 245
- Thum Ping Tin "The Partition of Malaya (The History of Singapore) [podcast] Ch.1
- BOOK PRESENTATION
 - Leow, Rachel. *Taming Babel: Language in the Making of Colonial Malaya*. Cambridge University Press, 2016.

Week 12 (April 12th) Taiwan:

- **Wu Zhuoliu, *The Fig Tree: Memoirs of a Taiwanese Patriot* (trans. Duncan Hunter). Authorhouse, 2002**
- FILM: *Warriors of the Rainbow: Seediq Bale* (2011)
- BOOK PRESENTATION:
 - Shepherd, John. *Statecraft and Political Economy on the Taiwan Frontier, 1600-1800*. Stanford University Press, 1993

Week 13 (April 19th) Hong Kong:

- **Dr. Sun Yat-sen, "Address to the Students of Hong Kong University" (1923).**
- **Umbrella Revolution manifesto**

- **SMCP, *The Guardian* and *People's Daily* coverage of student protests**
- **[Financial Times, "Hong Kong protest leader sets up history duel with Beijing"](#) (18 February 2017)**
- John Darwin, "Hong Kong in British Decolonisation" in Judith M. Brown (ed.), *Hong Kong's Transitions, 1842-1997*. Palgrave Macmillan, 1997.
- Milton Friedman, "The Real Lesson of Hong Kong," *National Review* (Dec. 31, 1997)
- Fujio Mizuoka, "Contriving 'laissez-faire': Conceptualising the British colonial rule of Hong Kong," in *City, Culture, and Society* 5.1 (March 2014), 23-32.
- BOOK PRESENTATION:
 - Ackbar Abbas, *Hong Kong: Culture and the Politics of Disappearance* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1997).
 - John M. Carroll, *Edge of Empires: Chinese Elites and British Colonials in Hong Kong* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2005)
 - Elizabeth Sinn, *Pacific Crossing: California Gold, Chinese Migration, and the Making of Hong Kong* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2013).

Week 14 (April 26th) Islands and Oceans:

- **PRC's Declaration on China's Territorial Sea, 1958**
- **UNCLOS tribunal ruling on Philippines vs. PRC, July 2016**
- Oxman, Bernard H. "The Territorial Temptation: A Siren Song At Sea." *The American Journal of International Law* 100, no. 4 (2006): 830–51.
- O'Keefe, Roger. "Palm-Fringed Benefits: Island Dependencies in the New Law of the Sea." *International and Comparative Law Quarterly* 45, no. 02 (1996): 408–20.
- Kimie Hara, "Okinawa, Taiwan, and the Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands in United States–Japan–China Relations" in *Japan Focus*
- Dudden, Alexis. *Troubled Apologies Among Japan, Korea, and the United States*. Columbia University Press, 2014. Ch.1 (on Dokdo)
- Sand, Peter. "The Chagos Archipelago: Footprint of Empire, or World Heritage?" *Environmental Policy and Law* 40, no. 5 (2010)
- BOOK PRESENTATION:
 - Samuels, Marwyn. *Contest for the South China Sea*. Routledge, 2013.
 - Hayton, Bill. *The South China Sea: The Struggle for Power in Asia*. Yale University Press, 2014.