



EAST-WEST CENTER
COLLABORATION • EXPERTISE • LEADERSHIP



East-West Center Wednesday Evening Seminar

**Keoni Auditorium
Hawai'i Imin International Conference Center
January 27– April 21, 2010
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

Preliminary Syllabus: Spring 2010 Cultural Foundations and Contemporary Expressions in the Asia-Pacific

INTRODUCTION

In this Spring 2010 Wednesday Evening Seminar (WES) series, we will host presenters who will shed light on current events with the objective of broadening our cultural understanding of the Asia-Pacific region. Topics in the WES presentations will cover a range of complex issues that have social, political, environmental, and religious impacts within the Asia-Pacific region. In this Spring 2010 WES, we anticipate some interactive sessions through multi-variant expressions and modes of presentation including films, a student panel, and an interview.

The seminar series will begin with a presentation by Dr. Christina Higgins from the Department of Second Language Studies who will be screening a twenty-minute documentary entitled “*Ha Kam Wi Tawk Pidgin Yet?*” and discuss indigenous language rights and the use of Creole language in Hawai'i high schools. Later in the semester, we will host a student panel and films highlighting the transnational issue of human trafficking. During the mid-semester presentations, discussions will focus on such issues as contemporary attitudes of racism and nationalism in Asia, including a presentation by Dr. Christine Yano on “blood ideology” and the Obamamania phenomenon in Japan. This will be followed by Dr. Paul Lavy from the Department of Art and Art History who will speak about the appropriation and reinterpretation of ancient monuments in Southeast Asia. We will host Dr. Will McClatchey from the Department of Botany who will speak about ethnobotany and cultural adaptations in the Asia-Pacific region, and the following week Dr. Roger Ames, from the Philosophy Department will give a presentation entitled “Confucianism and Changing Cultural Order”. Finally, the WES for Spring 2010 will close with a presentation by internationally acclaimed Tongan-New Zealand Artist Filipe Tohi in interview with Dr. Vilsoni Hereniko from the Center of the Pacific Islands Studies. The presenters will discuss about the art and technology of *lalava* (lashing) and current affairs pertaining to cultural expression in the Pacific Islands.

OVERVIEW OF THE WEDNESDAY EVENING SEMINAR

The Wednesday Evening Seminar (WES) is a weekly gathering of Center participants in their first fall and spring semester. WES brings together fellows from diverse academic disciplines, geographic areas, life experiences, and East-West Center programs to learn and dialogue on issues of common concern that impact the U.S. and Asia Pacific region.

While the graduate student experience tends to focus attention on highly specialized fields of study at the University, the Wednesday Evening Seminar challenges EWC fellows to explore regional issues that may extend beyond their range of expertise or comfort zones. Issues are explored through invited speakers, films and facilitated small group discussions. Through this process EWC fellows forge bonds among themselves that ultimately strengthen the Center's diverse, global community.

Past Wednesday Evening Seminar themes:

- Current Challenges and Empowering Voices of the United States, Asia, and Pacific
- Towards a Regional Literacy of the Asia-Pacific and the United States
- The Politics of Globalization and Social Networks in the Asia-Pacific
- Creating Futures for Asia and the Pacific: Choices and Behaviors
- Risk and Security in Asia and the Pacific

HISTORY OF THE WEDNESDAY EVENING SEMINAR

As with many innovative activities at the East-West Center, this seminar series emerged from student recommendations and student-led action. Degree fellows perceived the need for a unifying intellectual experience in an increasingly diversified student program. The Wednesday Evening Seminar began as a series of Center-wide discussions to explore the concept, and emerged as a student leadership project that developed into a distinctive, on-going feature of the student program.

Currently, the seminar is planned and organized by East-West Center degree-fellow interns, with the support of the Center's Education and Research program staff. The Seminar is required for degree student fellows during their first fall and spring semesters, and fall semester for Asia Pacific Leadership Program fellows. Continuing fellows are welcome to attend and often continue to participate in the seminar series.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of the East-West Center is to contribute to a peaceful, prosperous, and just Asia-Pacific community, thus serving as a vigorous hub for cooperative research, education, and dialogue on critical issues of common concern to the Asia-Pacific region and the United States. To reach this goal, facilitating understanding among the students of the United States, Asia and the Pacific who study together at the East-West Center is one of the Wednesday Evening Seminar's most important endeavors. Thus, discussion of the empowerment in Asia and the Pacific can lead to shared knowledge of common concerns that affect our collective futures.

Within this context, specific objectives will aid with communication and enhance the learning process. Nine objectives are listed in the schedule to clarify the educational process of the Wednesday Evening Seminar.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and Participation: Students must attend all course meetings and participate in group discussions. If you are unable to attend a session, please contact Mendl Djunaidy (e-mail provided below). Coming to the Wednesday Evening Seminar should be an engaging and fun way to learn about the Asia-Pacific region!

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions concerning attendance, please contact Mendl Djunaidy, Associate Dean of the Education Program at DjunaidM@EastWestCenter.org.

Other questions or concerns about the course can be directed to the following:

Marion Cadora, Planning Intern: mcadora@hawaii.edu

Sharima Abbas, Facilitators/Communications Intern: sharima@hawaii.edu

Pei-Luen Lu, Technical/Administration Intern: peiluenlu@gmail.com

Hui-Lin Lee, Food Coordinator Intern: twsa@hawaii.edu

Terance Bigalke, Director Education Program, bigalke@EastWestCenter.org

Mary Hammond, Dean, Education Program, hammondm@EastWestCenter.org

WEBSITE

The syllabus and weekly announcements, are posted on the East West Center website's section for the seminar:

<http://www.eastwestcenter.org/education/student-programs/wednesday-evening-seminar/>

PRELIMINARY SYLLABUS: Spring 2010

DATE	PRESENTER	TOPIC	FORMAT
Week #1 1/27/10	<i>New Facilitator Introductions/Group Activities</i> (No Speaker)	**Get to Know Each Other/ Collaborative Work**	Small Group Discussion
Week #2 2/3/10	Dr. Christina Higgins Assistant Professor Department of Second Language Studies University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Email: cmhiggin@hawaii.edu	“Wot, bodda you?: Challenging Stereotypes About Pidgin in Hawai‘i” (View film <i>Ha Kam Wi Tawk Pidgin Yet?</i>)	Movie, Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
No WES 2/10			
Week #3 2/17/10	Dr. Christine Yano Assistant Professor Department of Anthropology University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Email: cryano@hawaii.edu	“Thinking Through Race as Cultural Foundation and Contemporary Expression in Japan: The Case Study of Obamamania”	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Week #4 2/24/10	Dr. Paul Lavy Professor Department of Art and Art History University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Email: paullavy@hawaii.edu	“Ancient Monuments and National Identities in South East Asia”	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Week #5 3/3/10	Dr. Will C. McClatchey Professor Department of Botany University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Email: mcclatch@hawaii.edu	“A Mouthful of Diversity: Cider production around the world and conservation traditional apple”	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Week #6 3/10/10	Dr. Roger Ames Professor Department of Philosophy University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Email: rtames@hawaii.edu	“Confucianism and a Changing Cultural Order”	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A
Week #7 3/17/10	Human Trafficking Student Panel with Tatjana Johnson, Ratirose Supaporn, Micah Pexa, and Lola-Sharin Wagner	“Expressions of Social Activism in the Global Campaign to End Human Trafficking”	Auditorium style, Q&A
No WES 3/24, 3/31, and 4/7			
Week #8 4/14/10	Dr. Vilsoni Hereniko , Director and Professor of Center of the Pacific Island Studies in interview with Tongan New Zealand artist Filipe Tohi	Art and Technology of <i>Lalava</i> and contemporary issues in the Pacific Islands	Lecture, Small Group Discussion, Q&A

Week #9 4/21/10	<i>End of Term Party (No Speaker)</i>	**Final group activities and student evaluations**	Small Group Discussion
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