



“TRANSOCEANIC FLOWS: PACIFIC ISLANDER INTERVENTIONS ACROSS THE AMERICAN EMPIRE”

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RELEVANT FIELDS OF STUDY

Pacific Islander Studies
Asian American Studies
Hawaiian Studies

Indigenous Studies
Critical Ethnic Studies
Gender & Sexuality Studies

Samoan Studies
Diaspora Studies
American Studies

PRIMARY CONCEPTS

American Empire/ Imperialism
Tribal Critical Race Theory

Indigeneity
Militarization

Gender
Decolonization

ISSUE SUMMARY

This volume features research articles, commentary, and poetry on U.S. empire in the Pacific Islands and elsewhere.

- **This dialogue calls for robust interdisciplinary examinations of U.S. imperialism and militarization** in ways that mutually account for indigenous and settler articulations of class, culture, gender, race, and sexuality.
- **Two articles on Pacific Islander Studies demonstrate the significance of critical theories and community solidarities** in the making of Pacific Islander social movements in the U.S. and its colonies. (See the co-authored essays by Roderick N. Labrador and Erin Kahunawaika’ala Wright, 135-147, and by Jean-Paul R. deGuzman, Alfred Peredo Flores, Kristopher Kaupalolo, Christen Sasaki, et al., 149-161).

ESSENTIAL READING

See the introductory essay by Keith L. Camacho (“Transoceanic Flows: Pacific Islander Interventions across the American Empire,” ix-xxxiv).

KEY QUESTIONS FOR ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

a. Why did the U.S. establish military bases in American Sāmoa, Guam, Hawai’i, and the Marshall Islands, among other Pacific Islands? And how might critiques of U.S. militarization in the Pacific generate debates of the U.S. empire globally? **See the essays by John R. Eperjesi (1-17) and Nicole Starosielski (19-27).**

b. How do Pacific Islanders variously resist, survive, and reproduce white, supremacist statecraft and warfare in the Pacific Islands? And how do cross-cultural and mixed-race relations complicate these histories of indigenous identity formation? **See the essays by Nitasha Sharma (43-60) and Christine Taitano Delisle (61-75), including the poetry by ku’ualoha ho’omanawanui (29-33) and Craig Santos Perez (35-40).**

b. How might analyses of Pacific Islander genders and sexualities foster and advance local, regional, and transnational dialogues about cultural, political, and religious claims to freedom and liberation in the Pacific and internationally? **See the essays by Michelle Erai (76-89), Vicente M. Diaz (90-113), and Dan Taulapapa McMullin (114-131).**

RELATED CENTER PUBLICATIONS

Amerasia Journal 7:2 “Hawai’i: Issues and Perspectives” (1980)

Amerasia Journal 26:2 “Whose Vision? Asian American Settler Colonialism in Hawai’i” (2000)

Amerasia Journal 36:2 “Asian Australia and Asian America: Making Transnational Connections” (2010)

RECOMMENDED DOCUMENTARY FILMS FOR CLASS INSTRUCTION

Act of War: The Overthrow of the Hawaiian Nation. 58 min. Honolulu: Nā Maka O ka ‘Āina (1993).

The Insular Empire: America in the Mariana Islands. 50 min. San Jose: Horse Opera Productions (2009).

Living Along the Fenceline. 65 min. San Francisco: Many Threads (2011).

Noho Hewa: The Wrongful Occupation of Hawai’i. 70 min. Kailua: Kuleana Works Production (2009).

Polynesian Panthers. 52 min. Auckland: Tūmanako Productions (2010).

Sacred Vessels: Navigating Tradition and Identity in Micronesia. 28 min. GMF: Moving Islands Production (1997).

Sinalela. 3 min. Laguna Niguel: Dan Taulapapa McMullin (2001).

Warriors Born: American Samoans in the U.S. Military. 23 min. New York: Rachel Kahn Taylor (2010).