Nuclear Tests in the Pacific

Course Outline

Course Description

Designed to examine the history of nuclear weapon testing in the Pacific region, and to consider the consequences of testing on the local people and their environment. Compares Japanese and French Polynesian case studies to events in the Marshall Islands.

Course prepared by: Liberal Arts Department

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<th>Hours per Week</th>
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<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>Laboratory</td>
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Total Credit Hours 3

Purpose of Course: Degree Requirement

Degree Elective X

Certification

Developmental

Other

Prerequisite(s): C or better in ENG 101

Signature, Curriculum & Assessment Committee Chairperson

Date

Signature, Dean of Academic Affairs

Date

Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

Date

Last Date reviewed or revised: Sept. 2008
I. Nuclear Tests in the Pacific

II. Course Objectives

A. General Outcomes

Students who complete this course will:
1. Develop their knowledge of the Marshall Islands unique history with nuclear weapons (GE2, 8) (LA 2,5)
2. Explore the social, economical, political, cultural, medical, and environmental consequences of the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Testing Program (GE 1,3) (LA 1,3)
3. Explore how the events in the Marshall Islands fit into global concern with security issues during the Cold War (GE 1,3) (LA1,3)
4. Develop their research skills and critical thinking skills in regards to nuclear issues(GE 1,3,6) (LA 1,3,5)

B. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
1. Demonstrate knowledge of the Marshall Islands history with nuclear weapons
   a. Compare and contrast nuclear-related experiences in the RMI and around the Pacific in the atomic age
   b. Create poems, songs, or skits related to nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands
2. Identify various consequences of the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Testing Program
   a. Process, analyze, and synthesize information related to nuclear issues in the Marshall Islands from articles, reports, audiovisuals, and internet
   b. Report on how different atolls, test site workers, residents and subsequent generations are affected by the consequences of the nuclear testing program
   c. List who to approach and where to go to in order to access information on the consequences of the nuclear testing
3. Relate events in the Marshall Islands with global concern with security issues
   a. Define and identify significant terms and events related to the history of nuclear testing in the Pacific
   b. Review and summarize films and readings related to nuclear issues
4. Demonstrate abilities to conduct research and think critically
   a. Analyze and synthesize U.S. Department of Energy documents housed in the CMI Nuclear Institute and the CMI Library
   b. Examine the role of an oral historian
   c. Design, conduct and interpret RMI nuclear oral history

III. Course Content

This course provides students with information on atomic age and nuclear issues in the Pacific region.

1. The U.S Nuclear Weapon Testing Program, 1946-1958, the effects from a U.S. Government perspective and from an RMI Government perspective
2. WWII, creation of the Trust Territory, Hiroshima and Nagasaki
3. The French nuclear testing in French Polynesia
4. Terminologies associated with atomic bomb and nuclear testing
5. Poem, song, skit related to nuclear weapons
6. Nuclear Claims Tribunal, Sect. 177 programs for radiation victims (ex. Health care)
7. Four Atoll experiences with nuclear testing
8. Group projects on history, effects, Section 177 programs, comparison/contrast of Experiences and programs for the Four Atolls
9. Oral histories
10. Changed Circumstances and Compact extension

IV. Methods of Instruction

1. Lecture
2. Discussion
3. Videos
4. Guest speakers/Field Trip
5. Group activities
6. Individual work
7. Demonstrations
8. Online Research

V. Equipment and Materials

1. DVD/VCR
2. Computer with nuclear database
3. Reading materials

VI. Suggested Methods of Evaluation

1. Worksheets
2. Review, summary, & reaction papers
3. Mid-term exam
4. Group project with presentation
5. Final project
6. Portfolio
7. Interpret interviews through an oral presentation

Letter grades will be assigned per CMI Grading System.