



EWRT 1B (Reading, Writing and Research): *Islands and Empire*

with Instructor Aimee Suzara



New Section!

EWRT 1B – Sec 11

Meets MW 4-6:15, G9

What do you know about **islands**? Why are people fascinated with them, and what is the flip side to the mai-tais, hula skirts and picture-perfect beaches we see depicted in tourist brochures? In this class, you'll engage with and see through the lens of writers from island nations who challenge or reinvent island narratives. You'll read imaginative essays, manifestos, poems and plays by authors such as Aimé Césaire (Martinique), Craig Santos Perez (Guam), Barbara Reyes (Philippines), Jamaica Kincaid (Antigua) and Haunani Kay-Trask (Hawaii), and even Shakespeare, who wrote about an Island famously in *The Tempest*. We will explore topics like **identity, race, tourism, and colonialism** and reflect upon how these themes may be resonant for students in their countries of origin and the United States today, as well as learning about literary devices like character, theme, spectacle and imagery. You'll try poetry **explication, emulation poems, analysis, research** and include watching film and performances as modes of engagement.

