Anthropology 177: Cultures of the Pacific
Instructor: Jason Throop
Mid-Term Exam Guide

(Remember to bring a pencil and 882-E Scantron!)

Key Topics and Ideas

Pacific island culture areas
Issues of classification/similarity and difference
Variations embedded in the concept of “Polynesia”
Island contexts/Island types
Flora and fauna
Evidence for tracing the populating of the Pacific
Lapita pottery
Lapita and Proto-Polynesian peoples
Differing waves of migration in the settlement of the Pacific
Culture, society, social relations
Descent, descent groups, criteria for descent
Power and political structures
Stratification, hierarchy
Achieved and ascribed power
Semiotics and honorifics
Gender and sex
Mana, tapu, noa
Brother-sister avoidance
Freud’s Oedipal theory
Malinowski and the matrilineal complex
Margaret Mead’s view of Samoan care-giving, adolescence, and psychological life
Mead’ on individual variation
Mead-Freeman debate
Elements of Emotion, “Western” theories of emotion
Lutz on Ifalukian ethnopsychology of emotion
Spiro and culturally constituted defense mechanisms
Levy on hyper and hypocognized emotion
Levy on covert vs. overt appraisals
Levy on awareness, feeling, and emotion