

MĀLAMA I NĀ AHUPUA‘A (MINA)

Service-Learning Program and Sustainability Initiative – Spring 2017

The Mālama I Nā Ahupua‘a service-learning program runs four semesters a year – organized by faculty, student leaders and community partners. We welcome ‘ohana and students from all disciplines enrolled at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (UHM), Kapi‘olani Community College (KCC), Windward Community College (WCC), Hawai‘i Pacific University (HPU), Chaminade University of Hawai‘i (CUH), and other institutions of higher education locally and globally.

Individuals and groups (any age) are welcome to join us for special short-term programs or one-time activities.

For detailed information about activities and logistics email, call, or come by our office, but first and foremost check out our

MINA CALENDAR: servicelearning.socialsciences.hawaii.edu/ahupuaacal.html

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

CORE ACTIVITIES

The program is built around a series of common core activities, which also serve as training and typically take up 50-60% of the hours required. The common core activities include opening and closing sessions, as well as an upland (heiau), a midland (lo‘i) and a lowland (fishpond) activity. If you can't join us on at least one of the days scheduled for a given core activity, substitute activities are available (marked as such in the MINA calendar). Some of the core activities can be waived to create time for specialization.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES / SPECIALIZATION

Contact us for more information. You can either:

- specialize in one site - for example work with specific community groups or private entities to preserve and restore the environment of Hawai‘i. Examples: Lyon Arboretum, Hanauma Bay, Kāheia, and Ho‘oulu ‘Āina. Or
- create a broad experience for yourself through participating in the optional activities listed on the MINA calendar. Activities are usually added during the semester based on community needs.

CORE ACTIVITIES

ORIENTATIONS attend one of three – all 2-4pm:

UHM/Dean Hall room 5-6 Thursday 1/19; KCC/Ohia Cafeteria Friday 1/20; UHM/Dean 5-6 Friday 1/27

LOWLAND attend one of two: He‘eia Loko I‘a, Saturdays 2/11 or 4/22 8:30am-12:30pm

MIDLAND attend one of two: Ulupō, Sundays - 2/12 9am-1pm or 2/19 8:30am-12:30pm

UPLAND attend one of two: Hālawa Valley, Saturdays 3/4 or 4/1, 9am-1pm

REFLECTION & Pā‘ina: He‘eia State Park, Saturday 4/22 12:30-2:30pm

Core activities can be substituted with other activities. The MINA calendar mark approved substitutes – and lots of additional, optional activities. For weekday action: email csssl@hawaii.edu

PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS

Transportation: Except for a few activities, the program does not provide transportation to the sites. However, the MINA calendar has information about how to get to each activity by car and by public transportation. We strongly encourage carpooling.

Preregistration: All activities REQUIRE preregistration. Fill out this simple form: <https://goo.gl/forms/7FG3piitYj8y061O2>

Guests are welcome to join us (unless site limits/restrictions apply). For most activities, you can include them in your own preregistration, but they do need to be registered individually with MINA as well: <https://goo.gl/forms/naiosIwDEC057Tns1>

Sustainable activities: Except for the required waivers, we are aiming at being as sustainable as possible. Please bring your own work gloves and a re-useable water bottle to all activities. For activities with food, bring also a mesh kit.

BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

- If you are participating in MINA as part of class work, be sure to obtain your instructor's approval and comply with specific course requirements.
- Complete (1) the mandatory online registration: <https://goo.gl/forms/naiosIwDEC057Tns1> (including its MINA section), (2) the program waiver/release form (http://servicelearning.socialsciences.hawaii.edu/pdf/PCE_waiver_rev_0116.pdf); and (3) any additional service-learning paperwork/registration requirements that your institution(s) may have. UHM requirements are included in and covered by the above forms.
- Attend an orientation session to learn about the ahupua‘a concept, how to navigate the MINA program, and set up a written work plan with the program leaders (Ulla Hasager or Mike Ross). It has to meet the requirements of both your instructor and our program. Any later changes in the plan must be approved by one of the program leaders.
- If you are unable to attend an orientation session, you need to contact us at csssl@hawaii.edu (subject line: MINA registration for <your name>) to receive further instructions in how to prepare yourself for MINA activities.

READY TO ENJOY THE SERVICE-LEARNING EXPERIENCE

- Check the MINA calendar and select your activities. Preregistration for activities is REQUIRED before the deadline and explained above. If there are major changes in your preregistration, after you submit the form, please email us: csssl@hawaii.edu and explain what the differences are, for instance that you are bringing ten additional family members (:
- Always check the MINA calendar on the morning of an activity. The schedule can change due to weather conditions and unexpected events - and we do not send out texts or emails. Also check regularly for new activities that may be added.
- On-site in the community: Comply with instructions given at sites and activities by both site and MINA leaders. Be safe and considerate of others at the site.
- On-site in the community: Sign in with the MINA representative at all common activities. In case of record discrepancy, those sign-in sheets override your time sheet. If you forget your time sheet, let the MINA representative know and make

arrangements to get the time sheet signed by him or her *within a week* after the activity. Be sure to also comply with any additional service-learning paperwork/registration requirements that our community partners may have.

- Participate at least once in each of the five CORE activities (or approved substitutes), including the opening and closing sessions – unless we have set up a different work plan for you.
- In addition to the core activities specialize in one site/activity and work there the rest of your hours OR participate in a number of the optional common activities as agreed in your MINA work plan.
- Complete and document (with original time sheets signed by MINA representatives or community site supervisors) a total of minimum 25 hours of service for the semester (unless your class instructor has a separate agreement with us).
- It is highly recommended to keep a daily journal of your experiences – whether your instructor asks for it or not.
- If you need help with background information or research, feel free to email us at csssl@hawaii.edu. We are happy to help.

DOCUMENTING YOUR WORK

- After completion of the service, submit your timesheet (*required*) electronically (scan/take a picture) to csssl@hawaii.edu - we include the result in our report to your instructor.
- We also ask that you submit an electronic copy of your final reflective journal or other product related to your service-learning experience with MINA (what your instructor requires for class is sufficient).
- Complete electronic surveys as requested by our program (required) and by community partners (requested).

KULEANA

Prof. Marion Kelly of the UHM Department of Ethnic Studies originally developed the service-learning program, Adopt an Ahupua'a in collaboration with Professor Nelda Quensell and Dr. Carl Hefner of KCC. The program was implemented by Prof. Quensell (KCC) and Dr. Ulla Hasager (UHM) in 1997. Activities are developed and conducted in collaboration with our on-site community partners, who – along with the 'āina – are the actual teachers.

Living on islands gives a clear message about the need for responsible human interaction with the environment for anyone who dares to listen. Nevertheless, Hawai'i's environment and resources are in grave danger, not only because of large-scale mismanagement and development projects directed by motives of economic gain and political self-advancement, but also because of everyday use and lack of concern and knowledge.

The rate at which the environment is being destroyed makes it urgent to educate the residents of Hawai'i to take responsibility and action to preserve and improve what is left. We must create options for a sustainable use of the remaining resources and practices that promote food sovereignty.

The Mālama I Nā Ahupua'a service-learning program addresses these issues. We aim to develop a sense and responsibility of place by creating a fund of knowledge and practical experience, including Native practices of sustainable living.

An ahupua'a is a traditional division of land, typically extending from the top of the mountains out into the ocean to the reef. Within the ahupua'a, the inhabitants had access to all the ecological zones of the islands and could get almost all they needed for survival. Ahupua'a were self-sufficient and probably constituted self-governing political entities in early times.

The organization of the Mālama i nā Ahupua'a service-learning pathway varies from most other options for service learning, because of our emphasis on establishing a shared base of knowledge through common meetings and activities, usually taking up more than half of

the required service-learning hours. On this ground of common knowledge, the students build their own experience from the activities in which they participate, sometimes working in small groups.

Participating students come from a variety of institutions, levels and disciplines, such as botany, biology, sociology, anthropology, history, family resources, economics, political science, ethnic studies, and geography. Furthermore, our common projects often involve a variety of social, cultural, economic, and age groups. Participants regularly bring parents, children or other family members and friends.

The 'ohana perspective is part of our efforts to reach out to the P-12 levels and to create culturally appropriate lifelong learning experiences, recognizing the importance of both families and hands-on learning in a Oceanic context. The mix of age and social groups gives younger participants good role models and creates confidence in a future transition into high-er education.

We cover a wide spectrum of activities from hard manual labor to collection of oral histories. All activities, however, focus on the involvement of human beings with various aspects of the environment. The experiences and efforts of the students continue to help preserve environment and culture. Many of our former students have gone on to become community leaders.

Mālama: *To take care of, tend, attend, care for, preserve, protect, beware, save, maintain; to keep or observe, as a taboo; to conduct, as a service; to serve, honor, as God; care, preservation, support, fidelity, loyalty; custodian, caretaker, keeper*

Ahupua'a: *Land division, usually extending from the uplands to the sea, so called because the boundary was marked by a heap (ahu) of stones surmounted by an image of a pig (pua'a), or because a pig or other tribute was laid on the altar as ho'okupu (tax, gift) to a chief*

Mina: *To prize greatly, value greatly, especially of something in danger of being lost (Definitions from <http://www.wehewehe.com>)*

MINA LEADERS

Dr. Ulla Hasager, Director of Civic Engagement UHM College of Social Sciences/ACCESS & Ethnic Studies, anthropologist.
Offices: Dean 005-007. 956 0655, 330 1276 ulla@hawaii.edu

Prof. Mike Ross, KCC botany. Office: Koki'o 102, 808 734 9428
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Kupuna Richard Uweloa Ribuca, 398 9714

Prof. Nelda Quensell, founding Kupuna, ethnobotany

STUDENT LEADERS csssl@hawaii.edu - 808 956 0655

- Daven Chang, MINA program leader, UHM Hawaiian studies/anthropology
- Kyle Kajihiro, doctoral candidate, geography, UHM
- Misty Davis, UHM
- KCC Environmental Pathway leader (kccserve@hawaii.edu)

SUPPORTERS

Students: Kat Lobendahn, UHM; Junior Coleman UHM; Kanaloa Schrader UHM; Alex Lum KCC; Alex Awo KCC
Faculty: Colette Higgins WCC history, Teena Michael WCC biology; Wendy Kuntz KCC ecology/biology; Kathy Ogata KCC chemistry

Electronic copy of this factsheet: <http://servicelearning.socialsciences.hawaii.edu/resources.html>

MINA office: ACCESS-Program for Civic Engagement, UHM Dean Hall rooms 5-7, 2450 Campus Rd. Honolulu, HI 96822

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