SUPERVISOR/S: Maebh Long
PROJECT TITLE: The Oceanian Short Story
FIELD: Literary Studies - Pacific Literature
DIVISION/SCHOOL: ALPSS - School of Arts
PROJECT LOCATION: Hamilton

PROJECT ABSTRACT:
This research project is part of the Oceanian Modernism project, which Dr Maebh Long of UoW and Dr Mathew Hayward of the University of the South Pacific, Fiji have been leading since the project’s inception in 2015. The project has been broadly focused on the productive conjunction of modernist studies and Pacific literature, and to date has resulted in conferences, symposia, special issues, edited collections, articles and book chapters.

This summer research position looks specifically at the short story in Oceania. With the help of the chosen researcher, we seek to produce data on the gender and nationality of short story authors in the Pacific, as well as map trends in story content and technique in the short fiction from this region. We also aim to produce an account of 1) how the short story has been received in Oceania, 2) what methodologies that have been used to respond critically to this literary form and 3) the impacts of those methodologies.

STUDENT SKILLS:
• Attention to detail and the ability to commit to a research project
• Some experience in compiling bibliographies
• Interest in Pacific literature

PROJECT TASKS:
• Aid in the creation of a database of the short stories published in the major literary magazines of Oceania
• Aid in analysing that data according to gender, nationality, age, key content-related terms and key literary techniques
• Aid in the compiling of an annotated bibliography looking at critical work on short stories in the Pacific
• Write a research essay on the findings. Depending on the ways the research progresses there is the possibility of co-authoring a paper with Dr Maebh Long and Dr Matthew Hayward.
• Produce a poster showcasing the research that was conducted

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:
• Student’s Research Poster (as per clause 6 of the Scholarship regulations)
• Student outcome: A research essay
• Student and team outcome: A possible co-authored academic article
• Project outcome: data on Pacific short stories and their reception