

# “Identity, Regional Conceptualization, and the Pacific”

## -Guest Lecture & Discussion with Dr. Craig Santos Perez



Dr. Craig Santos Perez is an indigenous Chamoru from Guam. He is the co-editor of five anthologies and the author of five Books of poetry and the academic monograph, *Navigating Chamoru Poetry: Indigeneity, Aesthetics, and Decolonization*.

He holds an MFA in Creative Writing from the U of San Francisco and a PhD in Ethnic Studies from the U of California, Berkeley. He is a professor in the English department, and affiliate faculty with the Center for Pacific Islands Studies, at the U of Hawai'i at Manoa, where he teaches Pacific literature, creative writing, and eco-poetry.

Since the U.S. refocused its foreign policy on Asia and the Pacific about two decades ago, its military presence in the region steadily increases. Even though the era of the Trump administration presented a slight disruption concerning this agenda, U.S. efforts to remain a dominant power in the region amplified, especially after President Biden promised that “America is back” and about to continue bolstering its alliance network in the Indo-Pacific in order to guarantee a “Free and Open Pacific.” However, the vision and presence of a powerful U.S. and allies in the Pacific also has its downsides, especially with regard to issues of individual rights, environmental protection, and the protection of socio-cultural heritages of local communities.

Within this context and under the consideration of a Pacific Islander perspective, Dr. Craig Santos Perez will talk about his work and how it is connected to the discourse on regional conceptualization and identity concerning the Pacific.

**Date: November 26, 2021 (Fri)**

**Time: 18:00-20:00 (s.t.)**

The event takes place on **Zoom**. To access it, click [here](#).

**Meeting-ID:** 923 1532 1191

**Kenncode:** 965610