TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME
LING 407 SPECIAL TOPIC: TOPICS IN OCEANIC SYNTAX
30 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2014

Important dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 2 July 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Last assessment item due: 16 June 2014

Study week: 9 – 13 June 2014

Examination/Assessment Period: 13 June to 2 July 2014

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Seminar: Wednesday 14:10-15:00, location TBA at the time of the Honours Orientation meeting on 27 February, 4pm , VZ201.

Names and contact details

Course coordinator: Dr Elizabeth Pearce
                          Email: elizabeth.pearce@vuw.ac.nz
                          Office: VZ303
                          Phone: 463 5616
                          Office hours: see VZ 303 door notice

Course Administrator: Dayna Taramai
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Web contact: www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz

Communication of additional information

Notices relating to the course will be posted on the Honours Notice Board next to VZ 307 on Floor 3 of the Von Zedlitz building and on Blackboard.

Prescription

The course will be run as a directed reading course with weekly discussion meetings.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of issues in current syntactic theory that are brought out in the application of the theory to aspects of Oceanic languages

2. Build up a description of resources pertaining to the syntax of a selected Oceanic language

3. Complete a research project on a selected topic in the syntax of one or more Oceanic languages.

Teaching format

The course will be run as a directed reading course with weekly discussion sessions to which students are expected to contribute.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:
1. attend all weekly discussion sessions
2. submit all assessment items on time (unless an extension is granted).

Workload

You are expected to spend 300 hours on this course over the whole trimester, which means on average around 20 hours per week (Including the two weeks of the mid-term break). There is a total of 12 class contact hours in the trimester. You should allow a minimum of 3 hours per week for preparation for classes and revision after classes (the latter to confirm your understanding of the lecture material), background reading and assignment preparation. The remaining 250 hours plus should be spent on preparation of the items for assessment, with the proportion of time spent on each assessment item in proportion to the percentage of its contribution of the Final Grade.

Assessment

Assessment items	Due date	CLOs	% FG
1. Report (max. 1,500 words)	24 March	2	20%
2. Review (max. 2,000 words)	17 April	1, 2	30%
3. Research project (max. 4,000 words)	16 June	1, 2, 3	50%

The Report will provide a description of distinguishing characteristics of the syntax/morphology of a selected Oceanic language. The Review will present an account of literature on a chosen topic on an aspect of the syntax of one or more Oceanic languages. The Research project will be on the syntax of one or more selected Oceanic languages using a presentation format appropriate to the discipline.

Submission and return of work

Assignments should be handed in to the lecturer on the day the assignment is due or to the LALS Office (VZ 210). Please keep a back-up copy of your assignment. You can expect that your work will

be graded and returned to you by not more than two weeks after you submit it. Where more than one Question is included on an assignment, specific marks will be assigned to the individual questions.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

In line with the Linguistics Programme policy, assignments handed in after the due date will receive a considerably reduced grade (see below) unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other evidence of exceptional circumstances. If you require an extension for good reasons, ask the course coordinator ahead of the date for handing in the assignment. Such an extension may be given only up to the point at which the Assignments are handed back.

Penalties

Assignments which are handed in after the time and date on which they are due will be subject to a scale of penalties involving a reduction in the grade they are given, the severity of the grade reduction corresponding to the severity of the lateness. The details of the penalties will be set out on each Assignment.

You are strongly advised to begin work early on your assignment to be sure of getting access to the appropriate books and articles, to avoid last-minute rush, and to ensure that your work is not needlessly penalised. If your work is handed in late, it may also be returned to you late.

Plagiarism is not acceptable in assessed work, and will be penalized. The penalty will depend on the severity of the plagiarism. Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism

If you encounter any problems in your work for this assignment, discuss these with the course coordinator well before the due date for the assignment.

Set texts

The following are two key reference works which are relevant to the course content:

Lynch, John. 1998. *Pacific Languages: An Introduction*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press.

Lynch, John, Malcolm Ross and Terry Crowley, eds. 2002. *The Oceanic Languages*. Richmond, Surrey: Curzon.

Recommended reading

A list of recommended readings will be distributed in class.

Class representative

A class representative for the Honours year will be selected at the first group meeting of Honours students.

The course has not previously been offered and there is thus no student feedback available on it.

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progess (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz