



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

VA'AOMANŪ PASIFIKA

SAMOAN STUDIES

SAMO 111

SAMOAN SOCIETY AND CULTURE

20 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

Study week: 9 – 13 June 2014

Examination/Assessment Period: 13 June to 2 July 2014

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

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

LECTURES: Tues, Weds and Thurs: 12pm – 12.50pm FT83203
(83 Fairlie Terrace, Room 203.)

TUTORIALS: RM 102 6KP – timetable to be posted on S-Cubed.
(Room 102, 6 Kelburn Parade.)

Names and contact details

<p>Co-ordinator: Dr Tamasailau Suaalii-Sauni 6 Kelburn Parade, Room 203 Ph: 04 463-6867 Email: sailau.suaalii-sauni@vuw.ac.nz Office Hrs: Immediately after class or by arrangement.</p>	<p>Administrator: Sylvietta (Etta) Hanipale 6 Kelburn Parade, Room 101 Ph: 04 463-5830 Email: Sylvietta.hanipale@vuw.ac.nz Office Hrs: Mon - Fri 8.30am – 4.30pm</p>
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Communication of additional information

Any additional information or changes will be conveyed via class noticeboards located at 6 Kelburn Parade, Blackboard, and/or emails to students. You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

Prescription

An introduction to Samoan culture and society with a focus on key Samoan concepts, values, practices, and socio-political institutions.

Course Content

Talofa lava! Malo le soifua maua ma le lagi e mama! The Samoan Studies Programme welcomes you to our SAMO 111 Introduction to Samoan Culture and Society Course!

This course introduces you to the world of Samoans, from the prehistorical (before the written word) and mythological, to the historical through to the present day. As an introductory course on Samoan things we expect you to be open to learning some Samoan words and concepts, especially those that name and give insight into key Samoan social, cultural, political, economic, gender and legal institutions. Some of these Samoan words may already be familiar to you, some may be new. We encourage you to explore old and new words, to explore their meanings and applications. When you do this you will come to appreciate the saying that 'words carry the soul of a people'. Because we are mindful that this is an introduction course and that there are varying levels of Samoan language competency among our students, most of these words or names will be explored in the English language. However, you are encouraged to explore, wherever possible, the key concepts of this course in both the English and Samoan languages.

As an academic course SAMO 111 will also introduce you to the intellectual writings and thoughts of Samoan and non-Samoan scholars who have engaged in the world of Samoans. This is to not only expose you to the immense work available in our libraries on various aspects of Samoan society and culture, but also to help deepen your understanding of Samoan things. Most of this literature is written in English. This means that you will be expected to familiarise yourself with the level of academic English employed by these writers. You will be asked to examine what they are saying, the way they say it, when and where they say it, and whether you find anything good, truthful, useful, challenging or problematic about anything they said. In other words, while we ask you to be critical of these works, we also ask that you be respectful and constructive. We expect that as you journey through the world of Samoans, their literature and the literature written about them and their society and culture, that you will find much that is rich and unique, but also a lot that is similar to other societies and cultures around the world. By reflecting on what is unique and what is similar you will learn to hone your analysis skills and gain deeper insights into your (and your family's) own cultural and ethnic identities.

The course content therefore includes lectures, guest lectures, field-trips, video/film screenings, poetry and song analyses and will introduce you to four traditional Samoan cultural rituals (the tatau, ifoga, ava and sua), all of which are still performed (albeit in different forms) today. Each of these rituals still carry a tapu or sacred element. Therefore, we ask that you show respect whenever speaking of or performing them.

The Samoan Studies Programme works together with the Victoria University of Wellington Samoan Students' Association and Samoan Language Week in the promotion of Samoan language and culture. This year SAMO 111 students will be given the option of doing a performance presentation assessment for either of these as part of their in-course assessment.

Course Learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Identify key Samoan social and cultural values, concepts, practices and institutions and explain these in relation to the fa'asāmoa (Samoan culture and beliefs);
2. Assess the influence of global economic, social, cultural and political pressures on the fa'asāmoa and Samoan society;
3. Identify contemporary issues of relevance to Samoans in New Zealand.

The main aim of the course is to introduce you to important concepts, practices and beliefs within Samoan history, culture and society. The course traces key events in Samoan history and employs Samoan and English analytical frameworks for understanding these events.

Teaching format

The course is divided into lectures, tutorials, group or individual performance presentations, and two class field trips. Most of the lectures will be delivered by the course coordinator but a few will be given by guest lecturers (see lecture timetable in appendix). The two class field trips are to the *City Gallery* and to the *Taupou Tatau Shop* (see timetable for when these will occur). The field trips will be carried out on a scheduled lecture day. Full attendance at lectures and field-trips is expected.

Tutorials will be facilitated by the course coordinator. Tutorials are discussion oriented and students are encouraged to lead discussion sessions where possible. They are designed to assist you in your learning of lecture material and to give opportunity for you to ask about and get feedback on course assessment activities. Group and individual performance presentation assignment work will be done during tutorial time. The schedule for work on these performance presentations will be finalised during Week 2 and Week 3 tutorials. Full attendance at tutorials is expected.

As Samoan society has a strong oral culture, students are given the opportunity to develop their oral skills by doing an oral performance presentation of some kind for in-course assessment. These are described below. The assessments for these performances will be held during Weeks 11&12 (May 26-June 4).

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Submit for assessment all written assignments, except when accompanied by a medical certificate or evidence of other exceptional circumstances.
2. Participate (listening, asking questions where appropriate, responding to questions if asked and able to discuss in tutorials) in the group or individual performance presentation assignment.
3. Attend and participate (listening, asking questions where appropriate, responding to questions if asked and able to discuss in tutorials) in field trips.
4. Attend at least 80% of lectures and tutorials. If a student is unable to make any lectures or tutorials they must send an email to the lecturer before or immediately after being absent from the lecture with the reason for their absence.
5. Sit the final exam.

Workload

The expectations are that students will work 10 hours per point, therefore a 20 point course equates to 200 hours over the trimester. This includes scheduled contact time, individual or group

study, and work on assessment tasks.

1 st Key Concept & Questions Sheet (KCQ)	approximately 3 hours per week
2 nd Key Concept & Questions Sheet (KCQ)	approximately 3 hours per week
3 rd Key Concept & Questions Sheet (KCQ)	approximately 3 hours per week
4 th Key Concept & Questions Sheet (KCQ)	approximately 3 hours per week
5 th Key Concept & Questions Sheet (KCQ)	approximately 3 hours per week
Essay (2000 words)	approximately 40-50 hours
Performance presentation (10-15 mins)	approximately 40-50 hours
Exam (3 hours)	approximately 3 hours per week

These are approximations only, and will shift based on the specific tasks each week.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	1 st Key Concept & Questions Sheet (KCQ) 300 words	5%	1, 2, 3	21 Mar, 4pm
2	2 nd Key Concept & Questions Sheet (KCQ) 300 words	5%	1, 2, 3	28 Mar, 4pm
3	3 rd Key Concept & Questions Sheet (KCQ) 300 words	5%	1, 2, 3	4 Apr, 4pm
4	4 th Key Concept & Questions Sheet (KCQ) 300 words	5%	1, 2, 3	11 Apr, 4pm
5	5 th Key Concept & Questions Sheet (KCQ) 300 words	5%	1, 2, 3	18 Apr, 4pm
6	Essay (2000 words)	20%	1, 2, 3	16 May, 4pm
7	Performance presentation preparation work	12.5%	1, 2, 3	26 May – 4 June
8	Performance presentation (10-15 mins)	12.5%	1, 2, 3	26 May – 4 June
9	Exam (3 hours)	30%	1, 2, 3	13 June - 2 July

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT: (70%)

Lecture and Tutorial Attendance:

Students are expected to attend and participate ((listening, asking questions where appropriate, responding to questions if asked and able to discuss with peers) in all lectures and tutorials. If you are unable to attend any lectures or tutorials or the field trips you must make contact with the course lecturer explaining why. This assessment allows you to meet all three CLOs.

Written Assignments:

5 Key Concepts & Questions Sheets (KCQs): Worth 5 marks each (300 words each) **25 marks**

1st KCQ due 4pm due on: Friday, 21 March (KCQ sheet posted on Bb 14 March)

2nd KCQ due 4pm due on: Friday, 28 March (KCQ sheet posted on Bb 21 March)

3rd KCQ due 4pm due on: Friday, 4 April (KCQ sheet posted on Bb 28 March)

4th KCQ due 4pm due on: Friday, 11 April (KCQ sheet posted on Bb 4 April)

5th KCQ due 4pm due on: Friday, 18 April (KCQ sheet posted on Bb 11 April)

*Each KCQ sheet has the marking schedule on it.

ESSAY:

Essay (2000 words, references included)

20 marks

Due 4pm on: Friday, 16 May

*Essay questions and marking schedule will be posted on Bb.

GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE PRESENTATION:

25 marks

All group or individual performance presentations to be done: 26 May – 4 June

They will be presented/performed either in class or at one of the VUW Samoan

Language Week events or at one of the VUW Samoan Students' Association Events

*10 minutes maximum for individual performance

*15 minutes maximum for group performance

*Groups constitute 3-4 persons

*Performance presentations can include a brief oral seminar; a poetic recital with oral narrative; a musical or dance performance with oral narrative; a video collage with oral narrative; a visual art piece with oral narrative. Oral narratives are brief explanations of key aims, themes, points argued and promoted by the poem, musical, dance, video collage, and/or visual art pieces.

*Group performance presentations will be individually assessed.

*Individual marking schedules will be posted on Bb.

EXAMINATION: (30%)

A 3 hour exam will be held during the examination period, 13 June to 2 July. More details will be available after the trimester break. It will consist of two parts.

Part A: Multiple Choice

10 marks

This section comprises 10 multiple choice questions worth 1 mark each. Total marks for this section is 10.

Part B: Short Essays

20 marks

This section comprises 2 essays. Each essay is worth 10 marks each. Total marks for this section is 20.

Successfully completing the content of the examination will allow you to meet all three CLOs.

Submission and return of work

Written assignments are not to be submitted in hardcopy, but in electronic format only. Electronic assignments are submitted as a MS Word file through Blackboard. How to name your file and instructions for uploading your electronic assignment can be found on Blackboard in the "Assignments" section. Your mark and marked assignment with feedback will be found on Blackboard in the same section.

Grade and feedback comments for individual or group performance presentations will also be entered on Blackboard within two weeks of the presentation.

Extensions and penalties

No penalty will be given for written work that does not meet the maximum word count, but a penalty of 1 mark per 500 words over the word count will be deducted.

Late submissions for student assignments in all Samoan Studies and Pacific Studies undergraduate courses are subject to a penalty, except when accompanied by a medical certificate or evidence of other exceptional circumstances. The exact deduction will be calculated on the basis of one half mark per day late.

Assignments submitted more than seven days after a due date or authorized extension will still be accepted in order to meet mandatory course requirements, but will not be marked. For more information about circumstances warranting extensions, refer to the section on extensions in the Victoria University Assessment Handbook.

Field trip arrangements

There are two field trips for this course: (1) to the City Gallery to view the Shigeyuki Kihara “Culture for Sale” (Samoa) Exhibition on Thursday, 27 March, 12noon-1pm; and (2) to the Taupou Tatau Shop on Thursday, 17 April, 12noon-1pm. There is no cost to attend any of these field-trips.

Both fieldtrip sites are located in Wellington City. Students are to meet at the front entrance of the City Gallery and Taupou Tatau Shop. The City Gallery is located on 101 Wakefield Street, Wellington City. The Taupou Tatau Shop is located on 2/69 Cuba Street, Te Aro.

Attendance at fieldtrips is compulsory. If students are unable to make the fieldtrip for whatever reason they must let the course coordinator know as soon as possible for alternative arrangements to be made. Dress code is casual.

Set texts

A Student Notes Book is required and is available for purchase at Vic Books on Kelburn Parade (see www.vicbooks.co.nz – SAMO 111 Student Notes). All videos screened in lectures are required texts. If students are unable to view the video in class they are advised to view it in their own time. All video material will be available to students from the library. Any handouts or readings given out in lectures or tutorials will be posted on Bb or placed on course reserve in the library.

Recommended reading

A list of recommended readings will be posted on Blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep’s name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php. You will have an opportunity to participate in the formal evaluation of this course. Formal and informal student feedback on SAMO 111 has resulted in many improvements to the course, which will be discussed in class.

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-progress (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

APPENDIX ONE:**LECTURE TIMETABLE & READINGS**

Lecture Week / Days	Lecture Topic/Subtopic	Set Reading
WEEK ONE	INTRODUCING THE WORLD OF THE SAMOANS: FA'ASAMOA, HISTORY, PRE-HISTORY & MYTHOLOGY	
Day 1 (Tues 4 March)	Introduction to the World of the Samoans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feleti Ngan-Woo chapter in Course Notes Book.
Day 2 (Wed 5 March)	Historical Samoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch "Samoa" video • Malama Meleisea "The Settlement of Samoa" chapter in Course Notes Book
Day 3 (Thurs 6 March)	Pre-Historical and Mythological Samoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malama Meleisea "Old Samoa" chapter in Course Notes Book
WEEK TWO	LANGUAGE, IDENTITY & DIASPORA	
Day 4 (Tues 11 March)	Changes in Samoan Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cluny Macpherson chapter in Course Notes Book
Day 5 (Wed 12 March)	Samoan Identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roine Lealaialoto article in Course Notes Book
Day 6 (Thurs 14 March)	Samoan Diaspora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch "Milk & Honey" by Marina McCartney • Watch "O Tamaiti" by Sima Urale • Melani Anae article and Cluny Macpherson article in Course Notes Book
WEEK THREE	IDENTITY, RELIGION, ECONOMY & GENDER	
Day 7 (Tues 18 March)	Identity, Religion & Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cluny Macpherson and Laavasa Macpherson article on church and economy in Course Notes Book
Day 8 (Wed 19 March)	Identity, Religion & Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Lecture: Rev Nove Vailaau
Day 9 (Thurs 20 March)	Identity, Religion, Economy & Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penelope Schoeffel chapter on feagaiga in Course Notes Book
WEEK FOUR	GENDER & SEXUALITY	
Day 10 (Tues 25 March)	Gender & Sexuality in Ancient Samoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penelope Schoeffel JPH article on rank, status & gender in Course Notes Book
Day 11 (Wed 26 March)	Gender & Sexuality in Contemporary Samoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamasailau Suaalii chapter on Samoans and gender in Course Notes Book
Day 12 (Thurs 27 March)	Fieldtrip to City Gallery	No Reading
WEEK FIVE	IDENTITY, GENDER, SEXUALITY, FEAGAIGA & FAAMATAI	
Day 13 (Tues 1 April)	Fa'afafine sexuality and identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Lecture: Fuimaono Karl Pulotu Endemann
Day 14 (Wed 2 April)	Gender & the Feagaiga	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisit Penelope Schoeffel's two readings and Tamasailau Suaalii's reading in Course Notes Book
Day 15 (Thurs 3 April)	Gender & the Faamatai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tamasailau Suaalii-Sauni's "E faigata le alofa" chapter in Course Notes Book.
WEEK SIX	FAAMATAI & FAASAMOA IN NZ	
Day 16 (Tues 8 Apr)	Female Matai (Chiefs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Lecture: Magele Seu Collins
Day 17 (Wed 9 April)	Working as a Matai in NZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Lecture: Salevao Faauga Manase
Day 18 (Thurs 10 April)	So what have we learnt about Samoan society & culture thus far? A summary lecture	Revisit above readings
WEEK SEVEN	INTRODUCTION TO SAMOAN CEREMONIAL RITUALS: THE TATAU	
Day 19 (Tues, 15 April)	The Tatau (Tattooing) Ritual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch "Savage Symbols" video by Makerita Urale • Sean Mallon's two chapters in Course Notes Book
Day 20 (Wed, 16 April)	The Tatau continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest Lecture: Sean Mallon
Day 21 (Thurs, 17 April)	Fieldtrip to Taupou Tatau Shop	No reading
	MID-SEMESTER & EASTER BREAK (18 APRIL – 4 MAY)	

WEEK EIGHT	THE IFOGA	
Day 22 (Tues, 6 May)	Ifoga ritual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch "The Orator" film by Tusi Tamasese
Day 23 (Wed, 7 May)	Ifoga in contemporary times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cluny and Laavasa Macpherson's article on the ifoga in Course Notes Book
Day 24 (Thurs, 8 May)	Ava ritual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest Lecture by Tusi Tamasese, Director of the film "The Orator" Tui Atua address in Course Notes Book.
WEEK NINE	THE AVA & THE SUA	
Day 26 (Tues, 13 May)	Metaphors & meanings in sua and ava rituals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest Lecture: Salevao Faauga Manase
Day 27 (Wed, 14 May)	Sua rituals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See online: Grattan, F.J.H. (1948). <i>An Introduction to Samoan Custom</i>. E-copy Access: Online at NZ Electronic Text Collection: http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-GraIntr-c8.html. See chapter 8, Ceremonial Presentations of Food. See also Hiroa, Te Rangi (Buck, Peter). (1930). <i>Samoan Material Culture</i>. E-copy Access: Online at NZ Electronic Text Collection: http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-BucSamo.html. See the section on food customs. Class to learn 'ava song & perform it and/or the sua ritual in groups
Day 28 (Thurs, 14 May)	Mock Group or Individual Performance Presentation to Class.	To be done in class-time. No readings.
WEEK TEN	GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE PRESENTATION WORK	No set readings for this week
Day 29 (Tues, 20 May)	Mock Group or Individual Work on Performance Presentation to Class.	To be done in class-time. No readings.
Day 30 (Wed, 21 May)	Actual Presentations Performed	All performances in-class to begin today
Day 31 (Thurs, 22 May)	Actual Presentations Performed	All performances in-class to end today
WEEK ELEVEN	ATTENDANCE AT VUW SAMOAN LANGUAGE WEEK	No set readings for this week
Day 32 (CLASS IS ON MON, 26 MAY – NOT TUES 27 MAY)	Attendance at the VUW Samoan Language Week Opening 'Ava Ceremony on Kelburn Campus	All students to attend
Day 30 (Wed, 28 May)	Attendance or Performance at a Samoan Language Week Activity	Students who are not performing for assessment are to attend a language week session scheduled for this day
Day 31 (Thurs, 29 May)	Attendance or Performance at a Samoan Language Week Activity	Students who are not performing for assessment are to attend a language week session scheduled for this day
WEEK TWELVE	SUMMARY CLASS	No set readings
Day 32 (Tues, 3 June)	Samoa mo Samoa	Reading to be posted on Bb
Day 33 (Wed, 4 June)	Final summary, Exam prep class & class evaluations	
Day 34 (Thurs, 5 June)	Final summary Part 2 & shared lunch	
(June 9-July 2)	STUDY WEEK / EXAM PERIOD	
	END OF TRIMESTER	