

## WI SAMOAN 452

Samoan 452 will provide students with a theoretical linguistic framework through which to analyze the Samoan language. Special emphasis will be placed on the unique features of Samoan as a member of the Polynesian language family. When possible, aspects of Samoan grammar will be contrasted with other Polynesian languages. We will also look at the socio-linguistic and socio-cultural contexts of language use in Samoan society.

The course will be taught in English and Samoan and those with high proficiency in the Samoan language will be encouraged to complete the required assignments in the Samoan language. Class meetings will be conducted as lectures and discussions. Students are encouraged to present their own views of the Samoan language throughout the course.

Because the class is Writing Intensive, students will be required to write a great deal each week. Since the Samoan language competencies of students may vary, it is important that each weekly writing assignment be carefully reviewed by your peers in small groups and by the instructor. Each assignment will be returned to you for re-writing and re-submission for further comments by the instructor.

The writing assignments (described below) allow for enhancement of individual written communication skills in class topic areas. The re-editing of corrected assignments will enable students to improve their abilities to write in Samoan and English about the selected topics. Likewise, the focus on Samoan language and socio-linguistics in this course builds important background for the social and cultural context of the Samoan language and provides the prerequisite course work for entry into the native speaker level classes of Samoan 421, 422, 431, 432, and 461.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### **Reaction Papers (40 points of final grade)**

Students are required to hand in weekly Reactions/Critiques of the assigned readings and class discussions. These papers should review and comment on the materials discussed in the readings and in the class meetings. They are handed in at next class meeting following the date of the assigned reading or discussion. The papers are from one-and-a-half to two pages in length.

#### **Research Paper (30 points of final grade)**

Students are required to write a short research paper on an approved topic related to the Samoan language. Papers may be written in Samoan or English, but you must demonstrate an ability to use the Samoan language as a research tool in the completion of the paper. Papers must be about 10-15 pages in length and must be developed through at least two draft forms before final submission. A summary of the papers will be presented orally to the class during the final two weeks. Only the written version of your paper will be graded.

There is no required text for this course. Handouts will be provided frequently during the semester. In addition, an extensive reading list will be provided so that students may prepare for class discussion or conduct further research into areas of interest.

**Your final grade is based on the following:**

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Reaction Papers | 40 points        |
| Attendance      | 30 points        |
| Research Paper  | <u>30 points</u> |
| FINAL GRADE     | 100 points       |

**PLEASE NOTE:** Unexcused absences will affect your final grade. Students with 5 unexcused absences may drop one letter for the final grade (e.g. a final grade of "B" will be reduced to a final grade of "C"

If you are a student with a disability and have disability-related needs or concerns please contact the Kokua Program at 956-7511 or go to Room 13 in the Queen Lili'uokalani Center for Student Services.

## SAMOAN 452: SCHEDULE OF TOPICS

| Week | Topics   | Reading  |
|------|--|--|
| 1    | Introduction: What is a Grammar?<br>Language & Language Change   | packet<br>packet   |
| 2    | Comparative Method<br>Polynesian Languages<br><br>History of the Samoan language                                 | packet<br>packet, Krupa 1982; Grace 1959,<br>1985; Biggs 1978; Green 1966<br><br>packet, Mosel & Hovedhaugen 1992,<br>1-12   |
| 3    | Phonology and Orthography<br><br>Syllable Structure, Accent Unit   | packet, M&H 19-34<br>Pawley 1960, Biggs 1978;<br>Grace 1985; Hovdhaugen 1986;<br>Biggs 1978. M&H 19-48<br><br>packet, M&H 34 -43, 71-89;                             |
| 4    | Morphology: Word Composition   | packet, Milner 1966 xiv-xxviii<br>Churchill 1905; M&H 165-250  |
| 5    | Syntax: Sentence Structure<br><br>Varieties of Samoan<br>Literary vs. Colloquial Speech<br>Vocabulary of Respect | packet, M&H 49-66.,M&H 251-32<br>M&H 329-412<br><br>Duranti & Ochs 1986;<br>Huebner 1987<br>Buse 1961; Milner 1961;<br>Duranti 1992; Tu'i 1987<br>Duranti 1881, 1990 |
| 6.   | Class Presentations  |  |

## SAMOAN 452: READING LIST

- BIGGS, BRUCE. 1978. The history of Polynesian phonology. Second international conference on Austronesian linguistics proceedings (Pacific Linguistics C-61) Facile 2, ed. by S. A. Wurm and Lois Carrington, 691-716. Canberra: Australian National University.
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- DURANTI, ALESSANDRO. and ELINOR OCHS. 1986. Literacy instruction in a Samoan village. *The acquisition of literacy: ethnographic perspectives*, ed. by Bambi Schieffelin and Perry Gilmore. vol. 21 in the series *Advances in discourse processes*, ed. by Roy O. Freedle. Norwood, New Jersey: Ablex Publishing Corporation.
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- GRACE, GEORGE. 1985. Oceanic subgrouping: retrospect and prospect. *Austronesian Linguistics at the XV Pacific Science Congress*. Pacific Linguistics C88:1-18, ed. by Andrew Pawley and Lois Carrington.
- GREEN, R. 1966. Linguistic subgrouping within Polynesia: the implications for prehistoric settlement. *Journal of the Polynesian Society* 75.6-38.
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- HUEBNER, THOM. 1987. A socio-historic approach to literacy development: a comparative case study from the Pacific. *Language, literacy, and culture: issues of society and schooling*, ed. by Judith A. Langer, 393-411. Norwood, New Jersey: Ablex Publishing Corporation.
- KRUPA, VIKTOR. 1982. The Polynesian languages. *Languages of Asia and Africa*, vol. 4. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul.
- MILNER, GEORGE BERTRAM. 1961. The Samoan vocabulary of respect. *Journal of the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland* 91.296-317.
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- MILNER, GEORGE BERTRAM. 1966. *Samoan dictionary*. London: Oxford University Press.
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## **SAMOAN 452: FURTHER READINGS ON THE SAMOAN LANGUAGE**

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- AMOS, MAULOLO LEAULA T. UELESE. 1999. O le Fausaga o lauga Samoa. Vaega I. Apia: National University of Samoa.
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- CHURCHWARD, SPENCER. 1926. A new Samoan grammar. Melbourne: Spectator Publishing Co.
- DOWNS, EVELYN. 1942. Everyday Samoan. Devonport, New Zealand: The North Shore Gazette Ltd.
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