

Subject Level Collection Statement: Pacific Studies and Samoan Studies

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1. Purpose of the Statement

The purpose of this statement is to provide a framework to guide the collection development and management activities for Pacific Studies (PASI) and Samoan Studies (SAMO). It covers the resources held within Wan Solwara, the Library's dedicated Pasifika space, and also provides stewardship of Pacific resources held within the wider Library, including campus libraries.

The statement supports the teaching, learning and research activities of PASI and SAMO within the unit of Va'aomanū Pasifika.

This statement is developed in accordance with the principles outlined in the [Collection Development and Management Policy \(CDMP\)](#)

2. Description of the Academic Subjects

The Pacific Studies programme was established at Victoria University of Wellington in 2000. Its aim is to provide both undergraduate instruction in key concepts and issues in Pacific Studies as well as the opportunity for postgraduate students to pursue more specific topics of interest. More information on Pacific Studies: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/pasifika/study/subjects/pasi#overview>.

The Samoan studies programme was established in 1989. Students who major in Samoan Studies are given the opportunity to develop written and oral language competencies in Samoan and to explore indigenous and modern Samoan concepts, rituals and practices. For more information on Samoan Studies visit: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/pasifika/study/subjects/samo>.

3. Focus of the Subjects

Pacific Studies focuses on processes of both continuity and change in Pacific societies and communities. Pacific Studies at Victoria emphasises a cultural studies approach to analysing historical and contemporary phenomena. Core Pacific Studies courses are taught directly from the Pacific Studies programme (e.g. PASI101 Pacific Heritage, PASI201 Comparative History in Polynesia, PASI202 Globalisation and Popular Culture in the Pacific and PASI301 Framing the Pacific: Theorising Culture and Society). The 100-level core course takes a broad, interdisciplinary approach to study of the region, while 200- and 300-level courses are organised around more specific topics and themes. In addition to core courses, the Pacific Studies major requires 20 points in a Pacific language (Samoan, Māori or French) and an additional 40 points from approved 200- and 300-level courses. Students can choose from the two non-core 300-level Pacific Studies papers, PASI302: Special Topic and PASI303 Migration, Diaspora and Identity in the Pacific, or from an approved list of courses in other programmes with significant Pacific content.

The list of all Pacific Studies courses is available at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/subjects/offered/pasi#list>. Pacific Studies courses are offered through both lecture and seminar formats, and incorporate audiovisual materials from the library catalogue.

The Samoan Studies Programme focuses on the teaching and learning of the Samoan language, culture, history and society. Samoan Studies is offered as a major in the Bachelor of Arts Degree at Victoria University of Wellington. The list of Samoan Studies courses is available at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/pasifika/study/courses/samoan-studies#Samoan%20Studies%20courses>

4. Overview of the Collection

While Pacific and Samoan studies have only been offered as majors at Victoria University since the year 2000, the Pasifika Library collection has had a longer and more extensive existence, primarily in support of older disciplines such as history and anthropology that touch on various aspects of the Pacific Island culture, people and history.

Most of the Library's content relating to Pacific Studies and Samoan Studies is held within Wan Solwara. This collection contains the works of both Pasifika and non-Pasifika authors and includes resources written in various Pacific Island languages, as well as French, to augment Pacific academic materials written in English. The Wan Solwara collection is predominantly print.

Resources about the region's colonial legacy and the significant social changes Pacific peoples are facing are amongst the most popular subject areas in the collection. Also important is literature addressing aspects of social, political and economic life in the Pacific Islands and in other locations significant to, and a migration destination of, Pacific peoples.

Print items as well as a limited number of AV and electronic resources are also held in the Kelburn Library collection. These include journals, newspapers, theses and maps as well as microforms, music and video recordings.

4.1 Books

While the Library's general preference is for electronic resources, print books are currently the dominant format of the resources held in the collection, simply due to the lack of electronically-published materials in this area of study to date. Other formats are ordered where available and appropriate. Pasifika books ordered for Pacific Studies and Samoan Studies, along with some books in Pasifika languages, are shelved at Wan Solwara. Books on Māori and other indigenous peoples relevant to PASI and SAMO are shelved at Te Taratara a Kae in The Library's Māori-designated space.

Locating PASI and SAMO books in Wan Solwara reflects the Library's intention to provide a collection and space that reflects the Pasifika communities at Victoria and that encourages, supports and engages Pasifika students' and scholars' learning, teaching and research.

Besides the books housed at Wan Solwara, more books relating to other aspects of the Pacific are shelved throughout the Library's collection in all campus libraries with the relevant call marks. For example, the Kelburn Library's levels 0, 3, 4, and 6 contain books relevant to Pacific literature, information resources, history, politics, etc., they are catalogued using the call numbers relevant to the respective subject area.

The Library's special collections are housed in the J.C. Beaglehole Room on Level 4 of the Library, and these collections contain some rare books, pamphlets, photographs, & maps relating to the Pacific,

as well as collections of newspaper articles and manuscripts of selected archive since 1940s. The Pacific's main archival collection of particular interest is the papers of Mary Boyd. In the published collections, the Fildes collection has quite a few nineteenth century publications related to the Pacific.

The Law Library houses books specifically relating to Pacific Islands' law and legal systems. Likewise Architecture & Design, Commerce and WJ Scott education Libraries also hold books specific to their subject areas with some Pacific content.

4.2 Electronic Resources

The Library subscribes to a number of databases and online resources, including eBooks. These allow academic staff and students to access full text content from anywhere, as well as watching and listening online to live streaming and recorded content that are of immediate and obvious Pacific focus.

Databases and online resources useful to PASI and SAMO students are listed in the Pacific Studies and Samoan Studies LibGuide pages.

<http://victoria.ac.nz.libguides.com/content.php?pid=557535&sid=4595458>

<http://victoria.ac.nz.libguides.com/content.php?pid=566166&sid=4666325>.

An additional online resource is [Tidal Pools](#): Digitized Texts from Oceania for Samoan and Pacific Studies, a joint project between Va'aomanū Pasifika and the New Zealand Electronic Text Collection (NZTEC) that makes available texts of interest to those researching Pacific islands history, language, culture and politics.

4.3 Journals

The journal collection in relation to Pacific Studies and Samoan Studies supports the teaching and research needs of the programmes in most cases. Journals available in print may be located at J. C. Beaglehole room, W.J. Scott Education Library, Law Library, Level 0 of the Kelburn Library or the library's Offsite Collection. There are also many journals available electronically. Journals from other disciplines (e.g. law, education, anthropology, history, etc.) are also used to support teaching and research.

4.4 Audiovisual Resources

The Audiovisual Collection contains both online resources and multimedia items to borrow; collected mainly in the form of streaming media, DVDs, and CDs. The Library also provides facilities to watch DVDs and videos, listen to sound recordings, and view microfilms and microfiches. DVDs and CDs are mostly kept in the Glass Room on Level Two. Ordering of video tapes has discontinued and the existing collection has been digitised and are available for streaming through [eTV](#). eTV gives PASI and SAMO students access to streaming video of Pacific-related programmes recorded from locally screened television channels. eTV also allows users to request the recording of individual programmes or series that may be of relevance to their studies.

[Ethnographic Video Online](#) brings together a range of streaming video, written ethnographies and contemporary studies, covering various Pacific Islands and Pacific people's customs.

The [Language Learning Centre](#) (LLC) has multimedia and print resources in the Samoan language.

5. General Collection Guidelines

Current and future collecting for PASI and SAMO subjects focuses mainly on materials written about the Pacific by both Pacific and non-Pacific writers. Purchasing is targeted to ensure that the collection is both current and relevant for PASI and SAMO teaching, learning, and research.

Where materials with Pacific content are being considered for non- PASI and non-SAMO courses the Pasifika Library Navigator will consult with the respective Subject Librarian to avoid ordering unnecessary duplicates copies of any resource.

The Library recognises that there is a need to focus on adding more Pasifika content to its Local Digital Collections, and funds have been allocated to actioning this.

Book donations received by the Library are added to the Pasifika Collection provided they align with the [Collection Development and Management Policy](#), [Subject Level Collection Statement](#) , and [Collection Donations Policy](#).

The callmarks indicated in the table below relate to the collecting areas for all Pacific material in the Library's collection, not only in the Wan Solwara space.

LC Callmark Range	Subject Area	Current Collection Level	Future Collecting Level
BL2620-	Pacific Mythology & Religion	Study	Research
BR1495-	Christianity in the Pacific	Study	Research
DU810-819	History of the Pacific Islands	Study	Research
G2860-2862	Pacific Geography and Maps	Study	Research
GN622-663	Anthropology/Social Organization in the Pacific	Research	Research
GR380-385	Folklore in Pacific	Study	Research
HA4001-	Pacific Economic Statistics	Study	Research
HN931-940	Social history and conditions, Social problems, and Social reforms	Research	Research Research
JQ6651-	Politics in the Pacific	Research	Research
K23	South Pacific Law	Study	Research
L107-	Pacific Education	Research	Research
N7406-	Art in the Pacific	Research	Research
PL6501-	Languages and literatures of the Pacific	Study	Research Research
PN6519-	Pacific Proverbs	Study	Research
PN849	Pacific literature in diff. language	Study	Research
QH198-	Natural History of the Pacific	Study	Research

QK473	Botany	Study	Research
SH319-	Fisheries resources in the Pacific	Study	Research

5.1 Languages Collected

Most resources collected for Pacific Studies are in English. There are also some resources in French and a significant number of resources in different Pacific Island languages, with written materials and amateur DVDs and CDs in the Samoan Language being the most dominant.

Samoan Studies has most of its resources in Samoan and English but collecting is not exclusive of other languages.

5.2 Geographical Areas Collected

Resources on the Pacific, particularly Polynesia, Micronesia, Melanesia, New Zealand and Australia are collected. Resources on other parts of the world where there is a recognisable Pasifika presence, such as North America and South East Asia, are also collected, not as nations but as places that have been migrated to by Pacific Islanders.

5.3 Chronological Periods Collected

While the focus is on the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, the nineteenth century materials are still being collected for research, teaching and learning.

5.4 Publication Dates

In order to ensure the collection includes the most recent Pacific materials and research, most new resources purchased ideally need to have been published within the last two years. Older materials are purchased if they are not available in the collection and/or are regularly acquired via Interloan acquisition. Seminal works and other important texts relating to the Pacific are actively collected. Resources with subject matter referring to all periods are collected depending on their relevancy.

5.5 Formats Guidelines

Electronic resources are preferred in line with the CDMP, however print is often the purchased medium due to a lack of electronic content for these subjects.

6. Life-Cycle Management Guidelines

See [Section 4.4.1](#) in the Collection Development and Management Policy (CDMP).

Wherever possible, the potential life-cycle of new materials will be considered at the point of acquisition and accessible notes made as to any continuing historical or research value.

Pasifika resources are managed in accordance with Library guidelines and key documents. Subscriptions are reviewed on a regular basis.

6.1 Relegation Statement

See [Section 4.1 \(b\)](#) in the CDMP.

In general the [Guidelines for Evaluating Print journals](#) are followed.

Books

Older material is generally retained to serve the needs of historical research. However if an item remains unused for a period over ten years, it will be moved to the Offsite Collection and made available through next day request.

Journals

The print journals with exclusively Pasifika focus currently subscribed to are retained in the Kelburn Library. The Journal of the Polynesian society is available electronically and in print.

6.2 Deselection Statement

Deselection of Pasifika resources complies with [Section 4.4.3](#) in the CDMP.

Books

Superseded editions and duplicate titles will be considered for deselection. Deselection will take place in close consultation with Pacific Studies and Samoan Studies programme staff.

Journals

Print issues of journals for which we have perpetual e-access will be deselected.

7. Link to other Subject Level Collection Statements

<https://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/collections/collection-policies/subject-level-collection-statements>