

GUIDE AND INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

In Biblical and Theological Studies

Malua Theological College

2023

Sāmoa Journal of Theology (SJT) Style Guide

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Scope:

The Sāmoa Journal of Theology (SJT) is an academic peer-reviewed journal published by the Malua Theological College (MTC). SJT covers all aspects of theology and provides a forum for theologians of Samoa, Oceania, and the World.

Aim:

The SJT is devoted to publishing research findings of biblical and theological nature on Samoa. All articles submitted to SJT should conform to the Society of Biblical Literature academic standards. It aims not only to advance biblical and theological research in the Samoan context but also to bring the unique contribution of Samoa and Oceania to the international community of scholars.

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Language:

Manuscripts will be accepted in English and Samoan. Special issues, including church-related matters, may be published in the Samoan language. When using either language, authors are strongly advised to have their manuscripts proofread by a native speaker or writer who is familiar with biblical and/or theological academic writing before submission.

SJT currently has two main sections:

1. Research articles
2. Personal Reflections related to theology or church-related matters.

Submission Details

Manuscripts should be submitted in Microsoft Word using font style, Times New Roman size 11, and not be more than 7000 words. This word limit does not include the title page, abstract, references, tables, etc. Personal reflections must not exceed 2000 words and will be peer-reviewed in a manner identical to research articles.

Manuscripts should be organized as follows:

- i. Title
- ii. Author's name
- iii. Institutional affiliation of the author
- iv. Abstract (200-300 words)
- v. Main text without numbers subheadings is acceptable
- vi. Acknowledgements and/or notes
- vii. References

Manuscripts should be styled according to the requirements specified in the 'Submission Guide for Authors' (as below)

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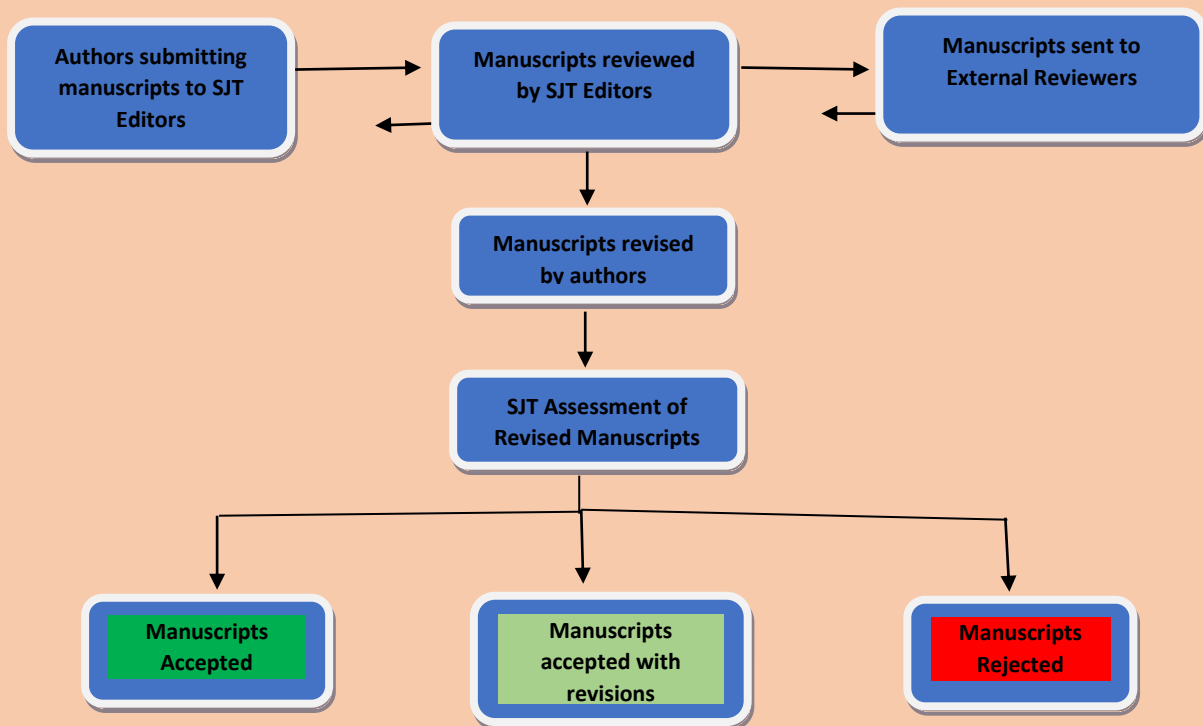
Submission Guide for Authors

1. Peer Review Process

Submitted manuscripts will be first examined internally by the editors, followed by a decision on whether or not to submit them for external review. Manuscripts that are not referred to for external reviews will be returned to the author(s). Manuscripts that are successfully reviewed internally will be assigned to independent external reviewers.

As a refereed journal, external reviews will involve at least two scholars with relevant experience and expertise. Reviewers will advise the editors about their recommendations. These will be on the Peer Review Form (attached) if revisions are recommended. The editors will then inform the author of their decision and recommend revisions to the manuscript before resubmission. Submitted manuscripts must be treated in strict confidence and may not be submitted to other publications.

1.2 SJT Submission Process



2 Plagiarism

One of the main reasons for manuscript rejection is plagiarism. SJT takes plagiarism seriously and advises authors to appropriately credit the work of others as used in submitted manuscripts. Submissions found plagiarised will be rejected, and the editors may inform the author's institution of the matter.

3 How to submit to SJT

All manuscripts must be submitted electronically by email to slt@malua.edu.ws and be in Microsoft Word format. All correspondence with the author will be via email. Please prepare your manuscripts according to the instructions below. The instructions are meant to help guide you through the submission process.

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4 Manuscript Preparation

SJT follows most of the guidelines set by the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) regarding technical matters as per hereunder:

4.1 Title

The title of the manuscript should be center aligned, bold, and in Times New Roman size 14, 18 pt before and 12 pt after, single space.

4.2 Author's Name

The full name of the author should be left aligned, in italics, in Times New Roman font, size 10, 10 pt before and 0 pt after, and followed by their institutional affiliations.

4.3 Abstract

The abstract should be 300 words maximum. The heading should be in Times New Roman size 12, bold, center-aligned single space, 18 pt before and 6 pt after. But the content of the abstract should be in Times New Roman, size 10, italics, and single space.

4.4 Key Words

The number of keywords should be five or six, which should be placed below the last sentence of the abstract.

5 Document Formatting and Layout

The main text should be well-typed and formatted in Times New Roman, size 11, single space.

5.1 Fonts

All manuscripts should be typed using Unicode mainly if it includes non-Latin alphabets such as Hebrew and Greek – so that the characters remain the same font and point size even though the font or typeface is changed from one Unicode to another or from one computer platform to another (e.g., PC to Mac). SJT uses the same font throughout the manuscript (e.g., Times New Roman- except that a different font may be used for each non-Latin alphabet).

5.2 Subheadings and Indenting Paragraphs

Subheadings should be all in Level 1 headings and must be formatted in Times New Roman size 12, bold, 18 pt before and 6 pt after, and must be center-aligned.

The first paragraph under a heading should have no indents. The rest of the paragraphs that follow however should be formatted in the first line by a 1 cm indentation. All paragraphs should be aligned.

5.3 Quotations

Quotations of 5 or more lines in any language should be formatted as a separate paragraph. All lines are indented on the left, without opening and closing quotation marks. Such quotations should use the same font and point size as normal text.

5.4 Quotation Marks

Place double quotation marks outside periods and commas (“.”). Question marks and exclamation points may be placed inside or outside of quotation marks depending on whether they are part of the quoted or parenthetical material colons and semicolons belong outside

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quotation marks. SJT discourages using an ellipsis at the beginning of a quotation, even if the quotation begins mid-sentence.

5.5 Citation of Biblical Texts

For citing biblical texts or block quotations, it should conclude with punctuation followed by the citation in parenthesis. Example:

He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire, a sound of sheer silence. (1 Kings 19:11–12)

5.6 Hyphens and Dashes

Use an en dash to cite biblical texts instead of a hyphen (e.g., 1 Kgs 19:11–12 not 1 Kgs 19:11-12).

5.7 Referencing:

From 2022, Malua Theological College’s policy is that all written submissions (including theses) must conform to the Turabian style. Turabian technically covers two styles (footnote & reference style and author & date style in-text citations). However, the footnote reference style is most common in theology. The SBL also considers this style as the most comprehensive general authority on editorial style and publishing practices. The following examples illustrate citations using the footnote reference as the SJT’s preference:

5.7.1 A Book by a Single Author:

Note:

Vaitusi Nofoaiga, *A Samoan Reading of Discipleship in Matthew* (Atlanta: SBL Press, 2017), 52.

Short Form:

Nofoaiga, *A Samoan Reading of Discipleship*, 22.

Reference:

Nofoaiga, Vaitusi. *A Samoan Reading of Discipleship in Matthew*. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2017.

5.7.2 A Book by Two or Three Authors:

Note:

James M. Robinson and Helmut Koester, *Trajectories through Early Christianity* (Philadelphia: Fortress, 1971), 237.

Short Form:

Robinson and Koester, *Trajectories through Early Christianity*, 23.

Reference:

Robinson, James M., and Helmut Koester. *Trajectories through Early Christianity*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1971.

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5.7.3 **A Book by More than Three Authors:**

If a book is by more than three authors, list only one and “et al.” to show additional authors. However, all names are listed in the Bibliography. For instance:

Note:

Bernard Brandon Scott et al., *Reading New Testament Greek* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1993), 53.

Short Form:

Scott et al., *Reading New Testament Greek*, 42.

Reference:

Scott, Bernard Brandon, Margaret Dean, Kristen Sparks, and Frances LaZar. *Reading New Testament Greek*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1993.

5.7.4 **A Translated Book:**

Note:

Hans-Georg Gadamer, *Truth and Method*, trans. Joel Weinsheimer and Donald G. Marshall (New York: Seabury Press, 19754), 91-102.

Short Form:

Gadamer, *Truth and Method*, 90 – 91.

Reference:

Gadamer, Hans-Georg. *Truth and Method*. Translated by Joel Weinsheimer and Donald G. Marshall. New York: Seabury Press, 1975.

5.7.5 **A Book with One Editor:**

Note:

Jeffrey H. Tigay, ed., *Empirical Models for Biblical Criticism* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1985), 35.

Short Form:

Tigay, *Empirical Models*, 38.

Reference:

Tigay, Jeffrey H., ed. *Empirical Models for Biblical Criticism*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1985.

5.7.6 **A Book with Two or Three Editors:**

Note:

John Kaltner and Steven L. McKenzie, eds., *Beyond Babel: A Handbook for Biblical Hebrew and Related Languages*, RBS 42 (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2002), xii.

Short Form:

Kaltner and McKenzie, *Beyond Babel*, viii.

Reference:

Kaltner, John, and Steven L. McKenzie, eds. *Beyond Babel: A Handbook for Biblical Hebrew and Related Languages*. RBS 42. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2002.

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5.7.7 A Book with Four or More Editors:

Note:

Oates, John F. et al., eds., *Checklist of Editions of Greek and Latin Papyri, Ostraca, and Tablets*, 5th ed., BASPSup 9 (Oakville, CT: American Society of Papyrologists, 2001), 10.

Reference:

Oates, John F., William H. Willis, Roger S. Bagnall, and Klaas A. Worp, eds. *Checklist of Editions of Greek and Latin Papyri, Ostraca, and Tablets*. 5th ed. BASPSup 9. Oakville, CT: American Society of Papyrologists, 2001.

5.8 Journal Article

5.8.1 Citation of an Article in an Edited Volume (Book Section)

Note:

Mark G. Brett, “Unequal Terms: A Postcolonial Approach to Isaiah 61,” in *Biblical Interpretation and Method: Essays in Honour of John Barton*, eds. Katherine J. Dell & Paul Joyce (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), 243-56.

Short Form:

Brett, “Unequal Terms,” 243.

Reference:

Brett, Mark G. “Unequal Terms: A Postcolonial Approach to Isaiah 61.” In *Biblical Interpretation and Method: Essays in Honour of John Barton*; edited by Katherine J. Dell and Paul Joyce, 243–256. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.

5.8.2 Article in a Print Journal:

Note:

Gary Knoppers, “Intermarriage, Social Complexity, and Ethnic Diversity in the Genealogy of Judah,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 120, no. 2 (2001): 15.

Short Form:

Knoppers, “Intermarriage, Social Complexity,” 17.

Reference:

Knoppers, Gary. “Intermarriage, Social Complexity, and Ethnic Diversity in the Genealogy of Judah.” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 120, no. 2 (2001): 15–30.

5.8.3 Article in an Online Newspaper and Journal

Note:

Tina Mata’afa-Tufele, “Pesticides use should be last resort, expert says,” *Samoa Observer* (September 2020): 12, accessed February 12, 2022, <http://www.samoaoobserver.ws>.

Short Form:

Mata’afa-Tufele, “Pesticides use,” 8.

Reference:

Mata’afa-Tufele, Tina. “Pesticides use should be last resort, expert says.” *Samoa Observer*, September 2020, accessed February 12, 2022, <http://www.samoaoobserver.ws>.

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5.9 Unpublished Works:

5.9.1 Thesis or Dissertation:

Note:

Peniamina Leota, "Ethnic Tensions in Persian-Period Yehud: A Samoan Postcolonial Hermeneutic" (PhD Thesis, University of Divinity, 2005), 141-75.

Short Form:

Leota, "Ethnic Tensions," 14-15.

Reference:

Leota, Peniamina. "Ethnic Tensions in Persian-Period Yehud: A Samoan Postcolonial Hermeneutic." PhD Thesis, University of Divinity, 2005.

5.9.2 A Paper Presented at a Professional Conference:

Note:

Samasoni Moleli, "Cultic worship with *nōkrî* according to 1 Kgs 8: 41-43," (paper presented at the SABS/SBL conference in South Korea, 25 July 2016), 13-17.

Short Form:

Moleli, "Cultic worship," 14.

Reference:

Moleli, Samasoni. "Cultic worship with *nōkrî* according to 1 Kgs 8: 41-43." Paper presented at the SABS/SBL conference in South Korea, 25 July 2016.

* **Note that all work cited in the main text must be listed in the References list.**

6 **Treatment of Foreign Words**

Foreign words (including Samoan words), phrases, and sentences used within an English context are italicized (e.g., *tautua*, *imago Dei*). Foreign words that have been translated into English are set in Roman (e.g., *locus classicus*). Transliterated foreign terms are italicized as well (e.g., *qal*).

7 **Biblical Terms and Names**

For Biblical terms and names, follow the version of the Bible used in your article. SJT prefers the names and terms found in the NRSV. If the translations are your own, indicate that.

8 **Abbreviations for Biblical Books (Old Testament and New Testament)**

Old Testament

Genesis	Gen	Isaiah	Isa
Exodus	Exod	Jeremiah	Jer
Leviticus	Lev	Lamentations	Lam
Numbers	Num	Ezekiel	Ezek
Deuteronomy	Deut	Daniel	Dan
Joshua	Josh	Hoshea	Hos
Judges	Judg	Joel	Joel
Ruth	Ruth	Amos	Amos
1–2 Samuel	1–2 Sam	Obadiah	Obad

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1–2 Kings	1–2 Kgs	Jonah	Jonah
1–2 Chronicles	1–2 Chr	Micah	Mic
Ezra	Ezra	Nahum	Nah
Nehemiah	Neh	Habakkuk	Hab
Esther	Esth	Zephaniah	Zeph
Job	Job	Haggai	Hag
Psalms	Ps	Zechariah	Zech
Proverbs	Prov	Malachi	Mal
Ecclesiastes	Eccl		
Song of Songs	Song		

New Testament

Matthew	Matt	Titus	Titus
Mark	Mark	Philemon	Phlm
Luke	Luke	Hebrews	Heb
John	John	James	Jas
Acts	Acts	1–2 Peter	1–2 Pet
Romans	Rom	1–2–3 John	1–2–3 John
1–2 Corinthians	1–2 Cor	Jude	Jude
Galatians	Gal	Revelation	Rev
Ephesians	Eph		
Philippians	Phil		
Colossians	Col		
1–2 Thessalonians	1–2 Thess		
1–2 Timothy	1–2 Tim		

9 Summary

All texts, notes, and references should be formatted according to the SJT requirements.

10 SJT Website

SJT's Website is currently linked to the Malua website.

11 Professional Publication Definition

The Professional Publication refers strictly to any form of religious research-based writings provided by the Malua Theological College to develop, enhance, and demonstrate writers' capability and engage with the scholarship standards in the theological field. This applies to all research writings conducted by the College's Principal, academic staff, and students. Malua Theological College ensures that all its research-based publications are designed, reviewed, and classified following the current scholarship standards upheld by the College and the Society of Biblical Literature.