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Department of Anthropology

ANTHRO 3237A-200 - Field Techniques in Linguistics

COURSE OUTLINE

Fall 2022

Version date: July 28, 2022

Instructor

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Office hours: TBD

Classes

Mode of delivery: For 2022-2023 this course will be conducted as blended with an in-person 2 hour class on Mondays and an online component to be completed by students before the Monday class.

In-Person class time: Mondays 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. EST. Classroom: SSC 3102

Note: This course is cross-listed with graduate students in the linguistics program, LING 9237A.

Credit value: 0.5 credit

Requisites

Antirequisite(s): None.

Prerequisites: Linguistics 2247A/B (the former Anthropology 2247A/B) and Linguistics 2248A/B (the former Anthropology 2248A/B.)

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. The decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to Linguistic Fieldwork. As such, this course will lead you into the field to seek native speaker consultants, to collect, transcribe and analyze linguistic data of a given language and to present that data in such a way that it is useful to others. We will be working with a language unfamiliar to the students, Moose Cree. Students must complete lessons in OWL before coming to the in-person meeting on Mondays . After the first three weeks, the Monday meeting will be dedicated to data gathering and elicitation with a language consultant. This will be recorded. We will be working with a variety of digital tools and students must be prepared to spend ample time familiarizing themselves with these tools.

A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course's OWL site before the first day of class.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Design questions to collect particular kinds of linguistic data
- Organize linguistic data for analysis
- Analyze linguistic data to create generalizations and identify gaps
- Present data in a way that is easily understood by others
- Identify best practices for documenting and archiving linguistic data

Course Materials

Registered students will be able to access additional course readings through the course site in OWL before the first day of class.

Evaluation

The evaluation methods described in this course outline are essential requirements for the course.

Fieldnotes 20% (top 2 out of 3 x 10% each)

Every two-three weeks beginning on Oct 31 students must turn in scanned copies of their fieldnotes ; thee first one is obligatory. These will be evaluated in terms of completeness and comprehensiveness. Top 2 of 3 scores will be added. Last fieldnotes will be due Monday Dec 12. More details will be provided on OWL.

Homework Assignments 50% (5 out of 8 x 10% each)

Every week starting in week 3, there will be an assignment posted related to that week's elicitations. Students must complete 5 out 8 assignments each one worth 10%. If more than 5 are completed, the top 5 will be used to calculate the final grade. At least 1 must be completed by Oct 31. More details will be provided on OWL.

Elicitation 30%

In groups of 2, students will plan and execute an elicitation on one of the suggested topics. They will then transcribe the session and present a summary of findings and future questions. Students will be evaluated on the planning and execution (5%), transcription (10%) and summary (15%). Groups will select a date for their elicitation beginning on Oct 17; there will be 2-3 groups per day. More details will be provided on OWL. Depending on the number of students enrolled, groups may do elicitations more than once in which case the best overall grade will be taken.

All assignments will be submitted in electronic format through the assignments tab on the Owl course website.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the

service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com).

Statement on Seeking Special Accommodations

No accommodations will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date or a missed quiz or test. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds.

Statement on Plagiarism

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

Institutional Statements and Policies

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation. These policies are outlined in Western's academic policies by clicking on this link: Western's academic policies.

Note on class recordings

All of the elicitation sessions for this course will be recorded. The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings. Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

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