

Field methods in anthropological linguistics – Fall 2020

ANG 6930 LIN 6165 ANT 4930 LIN 4930

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Course objectives

This course is intended to help you learn how to gather and analyze linguistic information from speakers of other languages. Students will work together with the language consultant for the class to document and/or record sounds, words, and phrases in the language for the semester. Based on the data gathered, students will develop analyses for the phonological, morphological, syntactic and other patterns seen in the data. Each iteration of this class focuses on a new language.

Prerequisites

This is an advanced course in linguistics. You should have the equivalent of two previous classes in linguistics before taking this classes.

Textbook and materials

There is no assigned textbook for this class. You must purchase a dedicated notebook for your data collection. Our class will be creating a joint database, and you must contribute your data to the database each week.

Requirements and grading

Grades for this course are based on 1.) your elicitation notes (40%), 2.) two classroom presentations (10% each), 3.) a final paper (25%), and 4.) class discussion and participation (15%). There are no final or midterm exams. The course is graded on an A-E basis.

Weekly upload of elicitation notes -- After approximately the 3rd week of class, you will have elicitation time with our consultant outside of class. You must type up your notes from this session and enter them into the class database. Your **weekly upload of your notes** is due at the end of each week. Detailed examples of the format for these notes will be given in class. We'll evaluate whether your notes show that you have understood class discussion, made efficient use of your time, read other people's notes, and so on.

Classroom presentations -- There are two presentations: Oct. 2-4 and Nov 6-8 (dates subject to revision). The first presentation should be about 5 to 10 minutes; the second presentation 15 to 20 minutes, and each should tell the class what you've discovered about the topic(s) you've been investigating in your elicitation sessions.

Final paper -- The final paper for this class is due on Dec. 14th. Undergraduate papers should be about 10 pages long; graduate papers about 20 pages. The paper should cover the same ground as your second presentation. (It would be wise to use feedback from your presentation in writing up the final paper.) Joint final papers are permissible with prior approval from me; the page length for joint final papers will be about twice that of ordinary final papers. A first draft of the paper is due to me on Nov 13.

Class discussion and participation -- Most of our class time involves asking the consultant questions, discussing each other's notes and transcriptions, arguing for one or another analysis, and so on. It's important for you to participate in these discussions (and to interrupt them for clarification if you don't know what's going on). We make a lot of group decisions about how to write and analyze the language, and your input is important.

Policies

Academic Honesty

Unless it is specifically connected to assigned collaborative work, or I have explicitly given permission for students to work together, all work should be individual. Evidence of collusion (working with someone not connected to the class or assignment), plagiarism (use of someone else's published or unpublished words or design without acknowledgment) or multiple submissions (submitting the same work for different courses) will lead to the Department's and the University's procedures for dealing with academic dishonesty. All students are expected to honor their commitment to the [University's Honor Code](#).

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the [Disability Resource Center](#). The DRC will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. **Please make any requests by September 4.**

UF Counseling Services.

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals that interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

1. [University Counseling and Wellness Center](#), 3190 Radio Road, 392-1575. Personal, career, and emergency counseling
2. [Career Resource Center](#), Reitz Union, 392-1601, Career development assistance and counseling
3. [Writing Studio](#), 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Writing assistance, study skills, test preparation

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing [online evaluations](#). Evaluations are typically open during the last 2-3 weeks of the semester, but students will be notified of specific times when they are open. [Summary results](#) of these assessments are also available to students.