

Introduction to Graduate Research  
COURSE CODE LIN6084, Fall 2020  
Instructor: Dr. Kevin Tang

August 28, 2020

## General Information

### Course description

This course is designed to provide a basic understanding of how to success as a graduate student, particularly in the field of linguistics. This course is part one of a two part course series. This course will cover three components a) an overview of different types of linguistic research (e.g., theoretical/experimental/corpus/field/socio- linguistics), b) foundational knowledge of teaching undergraduate courses, and c) general skills to success as an academic (e.g., How to find conferences/journals to submit your work to? How to promote your work on social media? How to interact with other scholars in a conference? How to make a good CV/presentation?)

### Objectives

On completion of this course, you should be able to:

- have a basic understanding of what the different kinds of linguistic research are
- have foundational knowledge of how to teach undergraduate students at UF
- familiar with the skillsets that you would need to develop during your graduate program at UF (e.g, find references to work in any area of linguistics, develop an online presence, writing abstracts to conferences, documenting your achievements and more)

### Time and place

WHERE: Online

WHEN: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Period 5 (11:45 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.)

### Teaching methods

The class will consist of lectures, discussions, student-led presentations, and guest lectures from faculty and graduate student with extensive experience in research and teaching.

### Instructor information

INSTRUCTOR: Kevin Tang

EMAIL:

- [tang.kevin@ufl.edu](mailto:tang.kevin@ufl.edu)

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS:

- Zoom ID: 961 163 5313 (Waiting room enabled)

- Fridays (Period 2 and 3), or by appointment.
- For information on what are office hours and how to make use of them properly see: <http://lsc.cornell.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/What-Are-Office-Hours.pdf>.

## Requirements

### Prerequisites

LIN graduate status, or instructor's permission

### Course website

- There is a CANVAS page for this course.
- Course url: <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/413112> or find it under 'Courses'
- The name of the course: LIN6084
- Let me know if you are not on the site.

### Textbook and Reading list

- Macaulay, Monica (2011). Surviving linguistics. A guide for graduate students. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Press (Acronym: M)
- Podesva, Robert J., and Sharma, Devyani (2013) Research Methods in Linguistics. Cambridge University Press. (Acronym: P and S)
- Other suppl. reading materials: Curzan, Anne, and Damour, Lisa. First Day to Final Grade: A Graduate Student's Guide to Teaching Door (2nd Ed) (Acronym: C and D)

### Assessment (tentative and subject to revision)

- Class participation: 10%
  - There will be a reading assignment for most class meetings. You should read the assigned material carefully and critically before each class meeting.
  - Active in-class participation is a requirement of the course. 'Active participation' means that you should regularly ask thoughtful questions in class during lectures and tutorials, and participate with the group exercises during tutorials. If you are habitually absent from class, leave early without letting us know ahead of time, or are otherwise disengaged, that will negatively affect your participation grade.
  - If you miss a class, it is up to you to borrow notes from someone, ask other students about changes to the reading/homework schedule, etc. Please don't ask me to go over what we did in class.
- Research component: 30%
  - chapter summaries and leading discussions 15%
  - Oral presentation 15%
- Teaching component: 30%
  - Teaching observation 10%

- Lesson plan 10%
- Teaching demo 10%
- General component: 30%
  - Self-introduction 3%
  - Abstract 7%
  - CV/resume 7%
  - Ethics test 3%
  - Other online exercises tasks 10% (e.g., IRB training)

## Grading

A: 92-100, A-: 88-91.9,  
B+ 85-87.9, B: 81-84.9, B-: 78-80.9,  
C+: 75-77.9, C: 71-74.9, C-: 68-70.9,  
D+: 65-67.9, D: 61-64.9, D-: 58-60.9,  
E: Below 58

## Academic honesty

You are required to abide by the Student Honor Code. Any violation of the academic integrity expected of you will result in a minimum academic sanction of failing grade on the assignment or assessment. Any alleged violations of the Student Honor Code will result in a referral to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. Please review the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code at [sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/](https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/).

Students should be aware of their faculty's policy on collaboration, should understand how to properly cite sources, and should not give nor receive an improper academic advantage in any manner through any medium. No student may work or collaborate with another person on any academic activity in this course. Should group work be assigned or this class policy change, I will provide that in writing on the individual assignment instructions.

Remember you are bound by the UF Honor Pledge:

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Student Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by Students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

## Evaluation statement

"Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries

of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.”

### **Accommodation**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. That office will provide documentation for me, so that requests for accommodation can be honored. Please do this as early in the term as possible.

### **Health and Wellness**

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352-392-1575 so that a U Matter We Care team member can reach out to the student in distress.

### **Course outline (tentative, and subject to extensive revision)**

Readings should be completed **before** the class date listed.

|                          | Monday   | Wednesday  | Friday  | Reading/Assignment  |
|--------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| W1<br>Aug 31,<br>Sep 2,4 | <p>Overview of the UF LIN graduate program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure of the LIN grad program</li> <li>• What you can expect, what is expected from you in the LIN grad program</li> <li>• Finding your goals</li> </ul> <p>[Reading: M. Ch1-2]</p> | <p>Overview of the UF LIN graduate program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure of the LIN grad program</li> <li>• What you can expect, what is expected from you in the LIN grad program</li> <li>• Finding your goals</li> </ul>                            | <p>Senior students (Caleb Ewing and Joshua Martin) to share their experience of grad school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief overview of themselves and their paths</li> <li>• Stage of their PhD, accomplishment,</li> <li>• What they would have done differently</li> </ul> | <p>M. Ch 1-2</p> <p>Assignment:<br/>Getting to know you</p>   |
| W2<br>Sep X,9,11         | NO CLASS   | <p>Resource management:<br/>Library resources, databases<br/>reference management</p>  | <p>Guest lecture by Dr. H el ene Huet (Assistant University Librarian, European Studies) on Library resources</p>   | TBA   |
| W3<br>Sep 14,16,18       | <p>Overview of Linguistic Research<br/>[Reading: P and S: Ch 1]</p>  | <p>A primer to research projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to start a research project?</li> <li>• Structure of research articles and</li> <li>• Summarizing papers</li> <li>• Summarizing papers: what makes a question or topic interesting?</li> </ul> | <p>Guest lecture by Samantha Creel (LIN TA) on teaching at UF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types of courses that LIN TAs teach</li> <li>• What are UF undergraduate students like?</li> </ul> <p>[Reading: C and D: Ch 1-2]<br/>(TBD)</p>   | <p>P and S: Ch 1</p> <p>C and D: Ch 1-2</p>   |
| W4<br>Sep 21,23,25       | <p>Making lesson plan (instructions, examples)<br/>[Reading: C and D: Ch 3, 6 and 9]</p>   | <p>Guest lecture by Alexandra Bitton-Bailey from UF Center of Teaching Excellence on UF teaching resources and teaching techniques, e.g., teachers/classroom dynamics</p>  | <p>Guest lecture by Joshua Martin (LIN TA) on his teaching experiences<br/>(TBD)</p>  | <p>C and D: Ch 3, 6 and 9</p> <p>Wk 3-6 Teaching observation assignment (includes interviewing the instructor afterwards)</p> |
| W5<br>Sep 28,30,<br>Oct2 | <p>Time management and well being<br/>[Reading: C and D: Ch 10]</p>  | <p>Student-led presentation/discussion on experimental linguistics<br/>[Reading: P and S: Ch 7-8]</p>  | <p>Types and methods of linguistic research: Experimental Linguistics by Prof. Edith Kaan (UF Linguistics)</p>  | <p>C and D: Ch 10</p> <p>P and S: Ch 7-8</p>  |

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| W6<br>Oct 5,7,9    | <p>Presenting oneself on the web and in person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social media</li> <li>• Elevator speech</li> <li>• How to communicate with mentors and mentees</li> <li>• Communicating with the broader public</li> </ul> <p>[Readings: TBA]</p> | Classroom dynamics<br>[Reading: C and D: Ch 4 and 7]   | (Tentative)<br>Ethics, academic honesty and diversity<br>[Reading: P and S Ch 2]<br>[Reading: M Ch 3 (42-47)]  | Assignment: make a lesson plan<br>C and D: Ch 4 and 7<br>P and S Ch 2<br>M Ch 3 (42-47) |
| W7<br>Oct 12,14,16 | Presenting oneself: practice  | Student-led presentation/discussion on corpus linguistics<br>[Reading: TBA]                    | Types and methods of linguistic research: Corpus Linguistics by Prof. Steffi Wulff (UF Linguistics)  | TBA   |
| W8<br>Oct 19,21,23 | <p>Getting into conferences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are conferences?</li> <li>• Abstracts</li> </ul> <p>[Readings: M: Ch 6]</p>   | Student-led presentation/discussion on theoretical linguistics<br>[Reading: P and S: Ch 3, 18] | Types and methods of linguistic research: Theoretical Linguistics by Prof. Caroline Wiltshire (UF Linguistics) (TBD)   | P and S: Ch 3, 18<br>Assignment: abstract writing                                       |
| W9<br>Oct 26,28,30 | Conference preparation: Poster making   | Student-led presentation/discussion on sociolinguistics<br>[Reading: P and S Ch 6,22]          | Types and methods of linguistic research: Sociolinguistics by Prof. Helene Blondeau (UF Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Linguistics) (Tentative)        | P and S Ch 6,22<br>Assignment: poster making and reviews                                |
| W10<br>Nov 2,4,6   | Conference preparation: Oral presentations  | Student-led presentation/discussion on field linguistics<br>[Reading: P and S Ch 4]            | Types and methods of linguistic research: Field Linguistics by Prof. Aaron Broadwell (UF Anthropology, Linguistics) (Tentative)                              | P and S Ch 4  |
| W11<br>Nov 9,X,13  | Guest lecture on conference experience by senior graduate students [TBA]  | NO CLASS   | Career paths: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (non)academic careers</li> <li>• CV, resume, applying for jobs (letters of recommendation,</li> </ul> | M. Ch 9<br>Assignment: CV making  |

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| W12<br>Nov 16,18,20  | <p>All about journals and grants:<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How they work (reviewers, impact factors, indexing, open access; main lx journals)</li> </ul> All about grants:<br/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How they work, why &amp; where to apply</li> <li>• Examples of grant/funding proposals</li> </ul> [Reading: M. Ch 7]</p> | <p>Guest lecture on academic careers [TBA]</p>   | <p>networking)<br/> [Reading: M. Ch 9]<br/> Guest lecture on non-academic careers [TBA]</p> | <p>M. Ch 7</p> |
| W13<br>Nov 23,X,X    | <p>Micro teaching demo</p>   | <p>NO CLASS</p>  | <p>NO CLASS</p>   |                |
| W14<br>Nov 30,Dec2,4 | <p>Micro teaching demo</p>   | <p>Dissertation<br/> – Guest lecture on dissertation experience by senior graduate students<br/> [Reading: M. Chapter 8]</p> | <p>Oral research presentation</p>   | <p>M. Ch 8</p> |
| W15<br>Dec 7,9,X     | <p>Oral research presentation</p>  | <p>Oral research presentation</p>  | <p>NO CLASS</p>   |                |