

Endangered Languages

LING 2040

Instructor: Mary Burke

Office Hours: Wednesday and Friday, 9-11am

Location: Language Building 409L

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Course Description

By some estimates half of the 6,500 languages spoken in the world today could be lost within the present century. In this course, we will investigate why languages become endangered and methods used to stabilize and revitalize languages. In addition to learning about linguistic diversity, the course provides students a global survey of cultures, political ecologies, and environmental issues. This course will increase students' intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Attendance and Participation

If you have seven or more absences, your grade will be lowered by one letter grade. Coming to class prepared and on time will be a factor in your participation grade.

Grading

Attendance and Participation	[20%]
Homework	[30%]
Revitalization Efforts Case Study	[25%]
Survey of Endangered Language	[25%]

Tentative Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

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Wednesday, August 29

Friday, August 31

Week 2: Linguistic areas, factors affecting language endangerment, projects

Monday, September 3	Labor Day: no class
Wednesday, September 5	
Friday, September 7	due: select endangered language for project

Week 3: Factors Affecting Language Endangerment cont'd.

Monday, September 10
Wednesday, September 12
Friday, September 14

Week 4: Language Documentation and Revitalization

Monday, September 17 **due: Factors Influencing Language Endangerment**
Wednesday, September 19

Friday, September 21

Week 5: Data Collection

Monday, September 24

Wednesday, September 26

Friday, September 28

Week 6: Language Revitalization Resources

Monday, October 1 **due: Pear Stories**

Wednesday, October 3

Friday, October 5 **talk: Political Instability and Language Endangerment**

Week 7: Ethics in Language Documentation and Revitalization

Monday, October 8

Wednesday, October 10

Friday, October 12

Week 8: Revitalization Efforts Case Study Presentations

Monday, October 15 **presentations**

Wednesday, October 17 **presentations**

Friday, October 19 **presentations**

Week 9: History of Language Documentation, Linguistic Field Methods

Monday, October 22

Wednesday, October 24

Friday, October 26

Week 10: Data Annotation and Organization

Monday, October 29 **due: Lang documentation HW**

Wednesday, October 31

Friday, November 2

Week 11: Language Archiving, Preservation, and Data Management

Monday, November 5

Wednesday, November 7

Friday, November 9

Week 12: Future of Language Endangerment

Monday, November 12 **due: Data Management Plan**

Wednesday, November 14

Friday, November 16

Week 13: The Linguists

Monday, November 19

Wednesday, November 21

Friday, November 23 **Thanksgiving Break: no class**

Week 14: Project Workshops and Review

Monday, November 26 **due: The Linguists assignment**

Wednesday, November 28

Friday, November 30

Week 15: Survey of Endangered Language Presentations

Monday, December 3 **presentations**

Wednesday, December 5 **presentations**

Friday, December 7 **Reading day: no class**

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism

Each student is expected to do their own work. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and will not be tolerated. Students who plagiarize and/or cheat will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity, and action will be taken, which may include an F in the course. Please talk to me if you need help citing your sources.

Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA)

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940-565-4323.