

# 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**

Monday, August 27

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.