Research Methodology: Linguistics/語言學研究方法，Fall of 2009

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Course description and classroom regulations

1 This is a three-credit required course for students of the graduate program at Department of Foreign Languages and Literature.
2 No prerequisite course
3 Course description: This course is designed to provide graduate students with the following basic methodological skills needed for preparing and writing a research paper or an MA thesis. Students will learn how to design and carry out a linguistic research project of their interests and how to present their ideas by speaking and writing. Upon the completion of this course, students are expected to be able to conduct an independent academic research and to produce a research proposal or complete research paper acceptable in the field of linguistics or applied linguistics\(^1\).
4 At the end of this semester, each student must submit a preliminary abstract of any research paper he/she is working on to a linguistic (international) conference.
5 The course schedule follows the eight steps to prepare a research paper:
   1) Choosing a research topic
   2) Searching the literature
   3) Documenting and organizing related information
   4) Choosing appropriate research methods
   5) Preparing a thesis proposal
   6) Collecting and analyzing data
   7) Interpreting your findings
   8) Writing up a research paper
6 Textbook: No textbooks are required for this course. There will a reading package or handouts distributed in class.
7 Teaching Approach: Each class meeting is composed of two parts: the teacher’s introducing general concepts and students’ discussion and presentation of assigned readings. This is a course that students learn the skills by practicing on their own. The instructor’s part is to provide comments and relevant experience on students’ performance. Each student will have two to three individual/group oral presentations. Each presentation must be facilitated with Power Point. Written assignments will be announced in class. The teacher’s lecture is mainly in English. Students may participate in whatever language they like.

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\(^1\) The research proposal or research paper shall not serve as a term paper of a course the student is taking or has taken.
All written assignments must be typed, turned in, and uploaded to the MOODLE website by
4 PM of the Monday prior to the presentation day (Students of the morning class)
6 PM of the Monday prior to the presentation day (Students of the evening class)

To facilitate your oral presentation, a Power Point document of the presentation content is required. For
details in preparing the PPT document, please download ‘Guidelines for PPT present-Graduate
Students.ppt’ (@ May’s website). Leave a hardcopy of your PPT in May’s mailbox (Room 26630, 6F)
by the same deadline. The layout of your PPT hardcopy for May must include the speaker notes [ 列
印/列印項目/備忘稿, i.e., one slide in each page. See: Sample-hardcopy for May (@ May’s website).
On your presentation day, please prepare hardcopies for every classmate. The layout of your PPT
hardcopy for student [ 列印/講義/純粹黑白/6 張投影] (i.e. 6 slides in each page, See:
Sample-hardcopy for classmate (@ May’s website)).

Please format your DOC or PPT documents in OFFICE 2003.

Any assignment turned in late or by handwriting will be deducted 15 points respectively from the
grade. Written-assignments turned-in 48 hours after the deadline will not be accepted and will receive a
grade of zero.

On-line participation takes 5% of the final course grade. You can write in English about:
😊 Your comments on what we have learned in the class
😊 Application of what we have learned to your study or research in linguistics and to your process in
solving daily-life problems or tasks.
😊 Introduce useful resource or information for the classmates, e.g., funding for writing a thesis or travel
grant for attending an international conference, and ADD your comments.
The deadline to post your writings on the MOODLE website is the Friday of WK 16 (Jan 1st, 2010).
Do not post writings in the last minute. Each posting should be about 150 words. Three postings are
required.

Evaluation criteria

10% individual oral-presentation of assigned reading
10% group presentations
15% in-class participation
5% on-line participation
40% written assignments
20% term paper (oral & written).

Syllabus

WK1  9/15  Introduction and syllabus
Steps of conducting a research project
http://lc.flld.ncku.edu.tw/
Moodle: http://moodle.ncku.edu.tw/
download reading material; establish the class email list; Guidelines
for PPT present.ppt; assigning group & individual presenters
HW: Learn how to use endnote
   http://elearning.lib.ntu.edu.tw/endnote/index.htm
**Need to be updated:
圖書館最新消息：EndNote 書目管理軟體講習
日期:2008 年 9 月 23 日 (星期二)
時間:上午 10:00-12:00
地點:總圖書館地下一樓會議廳
Step 1): Choosing your research topic
linguistics (語言學簡史). 北京: 外語教學與研究出版社.)
How to make an effective academic presentation: your comments on
three oral presentations (http://lc.flld.ncku.edu.tw/)
Organization of a research paper
Research questions and thesis statements
Tsai-2005-Opening stages in triadic medical encounters in Taiwan(to
download from MOODLE)
1 individual presentation: Fox & Thompson-2007-Relative Clauses in
   English conversation (to download from MOODLE)
1 individual presentation: Min -2005-Training students to become
   successful peer reviewers (to download from MOODLE)
Library tour: Meet at the library
3 individual presentations: each student chooses one area from Wray
et al. 1998, Part I –Areas of study and project ideas, ch2 to ch11,
P19-150 (Ask the front desk of the Main library for reserved books
‘410.72 W924’ Projects in Linguistics.)
Wray et al-1998-Psycholinguistics-02
Wray et al-1998-First-language acquisition and development-03
Reay-1998-Conversation analysis-04
Wray et al-1998-Second-language acquisition-05
Wray et al-1998-Style in texts-06
Wray et al-1998-Sociolinguistics-07
Wray et al-1998-Accents and dialects of English-08
Wray et al-1998-Structure and meaning-09
Wray et al-1998-Historical linguistics-10
HW981-5: Think of a research question you are interested in (Due on the Monday of WK6)

HW: What are the functions of literature reviews: Analysis previous research cited in Tsai 2005

WK6  10/20

HW review: Research question

HW review: Function of literature review

Step 2): Searching the literature

HW971-71: Revise your research questions and find abstracts of two research papers related to your research question (Due on the Monday of WK8)

WK7  10/27

3 group presentations: Give an introduction to internet resources listed on the reference (groups A, B, & C); Introduce how they are useful for your linguistic research? Give specific examples.

WK8  11/3

Introduction of endnote (meet in a PC lab with TA)

HW971-82: endnote (Due on the Monday of WK9)

WK9  11/10


EX: Bring in Tsai-2005-Opening stage in TW medical triad;

Min-2005- Training students to become successful peer reviewers.

Step 3): Documenting and organizing related information

How to annotate

HW971-9: Two annotated bibliographies, and a list of at least 5 references, following Language style sheet) (Due on the Monday of WK10)

WK10  11/17

HW review: endnote

Wray et al. 1998. Ch22: Plagiarism and how to avoid it, P241-54

Step 3): Documenting and organizing related information

Exercise: How to paraphrase

WK11  11/24

Step 4) Choosing appropriate research methods

MLRY-1987-001-ch01-Field Linguistics (P75-88) “Three models of conducting linguistic research” (76-78)

Wray et al. 1998, Part II: Techniques for collecting data:

Tape-recording (P153-7) Experiments (P158-66);

Wray et al. 1998, Part II: Techniques for collecting data:

Questionnaires (P167-81) Interviews (P182-5)

WK12  12/1

Wray et al. 1998, Ch19: Using computer to study texts (P213-23).

The student who presents this chapter should introduce one linguistics
corpus and demonstrate how they are useful for what kind of linguistic research.

Coupland et al-1992-"How are you?": Negotiating phatic communion
Labov-1972-The social stratification of (r) (P43-50)

Movie: Erin Brockovich
Book: 喚醒冰凍人-帕金森症解謎之鑰，竟然藏在假毒品受害者腦中

Presentation schedule
HW: analyze contents of one proposals
What are the content of a proposal? How is a proposal different from a complete research paper?

Tsao-1999-NSC proposal.doc

Step 5): Preparing a thesis proposal: How to write a research proposal
Step 6): Collecting and analyzing data
Step 7): Interpreting your findings
Step 8): Writing up a research paper: format and content of a research paper

2 individual presentations: Oral presentation of your five-page research proposal (Written proposal due on the Monday of WK17)

4 individual presentations: Oral presentation of your five-page research proposal (Written proposal due on the Monday of WK18)

4 individual presentations: Oral presentation of your five-page research proposal (Written proposal due on the Monday of WK18)

On-line resource

May’s website:
http://lc.fldd.ncku.edu.tw/ (User name and passwords will be announced in class).

MOODLE: http://moodle.ncku.edu.tw/

Group A

Group B
http://proquest.umi.com/login (PQDT)
http://etds.ncl.edu.tw/theabs/index.jsp (全國博碩士論文資訊網)
http://pqdd.sinica.edu.tw/twdaoapp/basic.html

Group C
Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts(Database) [via NCKU/電子資源查詢]
http://csaweb109v.csa.com/ids70/quick_search.php?SID=o056kbd91vjntoi33ea0ev54l2
http://scholar.google.com.tw/

Reference (in Language style)