

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON  
*Te Whare Wananga o te Upoko o te Ika a Maui*



**School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies**

**LING 489 Research Essay, 30 points**

**Trimester 3 2011**

**1. Trimester dates**

Teaching dates: 14 November 2011 to 17 February 2012

Mid-trimester break: 21 December 2011 to 8 January 2012

Examination/ Assessment period: 20 to 24 February 2012

**2. Withdrawal dates**

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at  
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawlsrefunds.aspx>

**3. Staff**

Each individual student will be assigned to a supervisor for this course. The course co-ordinator is the Director of the Linguistics Programme, namely Janet Holmes, VZ 301, ☎ 463 5614, email: [janet.holmes@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:janet.holmes@vuw.ac.nz)

Your supervisor for this course is:

Sasha Calhoun  
Office: VZ 307

[Sasha.Calhoun@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Sasha.Calhoun@vuw.ac.nz)  
Ph 463 9537

**4. Course delivery**

Course work consists of an individual research project on a linguistic topic leading to an extended research essay.

**5. Class times**

Supervision is expected to total 12 hours over the course of the trimester, one hour per week on average. Regular appointments with supervisor will be agreed between candidate and supervisor

**6. Communication of additional information**

Notices relating to the course will be emailed directly to the student.

## **7. Prescription**

An essay of approximately 10,000 words on a topic approved after consultation and the submission of a 500-word synopsis.

## **8. Aims**

To develop the student's research and writing skills within an area of Linguistics.

## **9. Learning Objectives**

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- i) Build their own list of sources related to the topic of their research;
- ii) Understand and evaluate literature related to their research topic;
- iii) Present a written piece of research using the appropriate stylistic conventions for Linguistics;
- iv) Demonstrate an awareness of the theoretical and methodological issues in the area of Linguistics they choose to investigate;
- v) Demonstrate the ability to design, carry out and report on a research project relevant to the topic.

## **10. Course Content**

The content of each individual paper will be determined in negotiation between the student and the supervisor.

## **11. Reading**

Every student will need to determine their own reading lists, with support from the supervisor. Students will be expected to distinguish between relevant and irrelevant works, and to follow up leads in the literature they read.

## **12. Assessment requirements**

Assessment will be based on a single piece of work, with an expected maximum length of 10,000 words, excluding references and appendices.

## **13. Penalties**

The essay will be handed in on a date to be agreed between the supervisor and the student. The final date for handing in the essay IN TWO COPIES is 24 February 2012. NO EXTENSIONS ARE POSSIBLE BEYOND THAT DATE. Since missing the deadline will result in a fail, you should aim to hand in your assignment at least a week earlier than that.

#### **14. Assessment and course objectives**

The single piece of work submitted should fulfil the course objectives, and will be assessed in relation to these objectives.

#### **15. Workload**

You are expected to spend 300 hours on this course over the trimester, which means on average around 25 hours per week of term time, including the one hour of meeting time with your supervisor.

#### **16. Mandatory Course Requirements**

To gain a pass in this course each student must submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified date.

#### **17. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

#### **18. WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION**

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study). Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress). Most statutes and policies are available at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy), except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx) (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcademic](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic)