



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME LING 489 RESEARCH PROJECT 30 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: 28 October 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

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

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator:

Dr Sasha Calhoun

Office: VZ318

Phone: 463 4046

Office hours: TBA

Email: sasha.calhoun@vuw.ac.nz

Course Administrator

Matthew Vink

Office: VZ210

Phone: 463 5255

Office hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 4.15pm

Email: matthew.vink@vuw.ac.nz

Each individual student will be assigned to a supervisor for this course.

Communication of additional information

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

Prescription

A project/research essay of approximately 10,000 words on a topic approved after consultation and the submission of a 500-word synopsis. In the first instance, please see the Linguistics Programme Director.

Course content

The precise content of this course will be determined in negotiation between the student and the supervisor.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course 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.

Teaching format

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

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall grade of 50% in this course, there are no mandatory course requirements.

Workload

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

Assessment

Assessment will be based on a single piece of work, with an expected maximum length of 10,000 words, excluding references and appendices. The due date for this work is 28 October 2015. The student will be expected to submit drafts of this work as it is developed through the term, and feedback will be provided on this.

Submission and return of work

Two copies of the Research Project should be submitted, one as a hard copy and one electronic version. Electronic versions should be emailed to the supervisor and the hard copy given directly to the supervisor or handed in at the LALS Office (VZ 210). You should keep a back-up copy of your work. You can expect that your work will be graded and returned to you by not more than two weeks after you submit it. The marking criteria accord with how well the work that is produced demonstrates that the student can fulfil the course objectives above.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

In line with the Linguistics Programme policy, assignments handed in after the due date will receive a considerably reduced grade (see below) unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other evidence of exceptional circumstances. If you require an extension for good reasons, ask the course coordinator ahead of the date for handing in the assignment.

Penalties

Projects which are handed in after the time and date on which they are due will be subject to a scale of penalties involving a reduction in the grade they are given, the severity of the grade reduction corresponding to the severity of the lateness. The details of the penalties will be set out with the instructions that are given with the particular task.

Set texts and recommended 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.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative for LING Honours was selected in the first trimester. Contact details for the class representative are distributed via email to all Honours students.

Student feedback

Student feedback on this course is welcome at any time. As the LING 489 course involves individual students working with different supervisors, it cannot be evaluated using the standard CAD evaluations. However, the Linguistics Honours programme is periodically evaluated as a whole, and enhancements made to our courses based on the feedback of previous students.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability

- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz