

LINGUISTICS 89 HONORS SEMINAR FOR LINGUISTICS 1

Linguistics 89: Linguistics 89 Honors Seminar is a one-unit class associated with Linguistics 1. It has been established primarily for students who wish to receive Honors credit for Linguistics 1, but other students are welcome to enroll as long as enrollment size remains within reasonable limits. The instructor for Linguistics 89 is Russell Schuh, who is the instructor for the Linguistics 1 lecture course. Honors credit and letter grade for the course will be based on participation in and completion of a project, described below. Time in the Linguistics 89 seminar will be divided between expanding on the content of Linguistics 1 lectures and planning the 89 project, to be described below. Although we will spend some of the time in Linguistics 89 discussing issues from the Linguistics 1 class, Linguistics 89 students should attend their regular discussion sections and should bring up questions about assignments and other general issues pertaining to lectures in the discussion sections.

YOUR LINGUISTICS 1 COURSE GRADE DERIVES ONLY FROM THE CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF YOUR ASSIGNMENTS, COURSE PAPER, AND FINAL EXAM. YOU MUST RECEIVE A B IN THE COURSE TO GET HONORS CREDIT. A B- OR BELOW DOES NOT GAIN HONORS CREDIT. CONVERSELY, THE LETTER GRADE FOR LINGUISTICS 89 WILL BE BASED ON THE COURSE PROJECT AND WILL NOT BE AFFECTED BY PERFORMANCE IN THE LINGUISTICS 1 LECTURE COURSE.

Honors Project: In order to obtain Honors credit, you will create a World Wide Web site on a specific language. IF YOU HAVE NEVER DONE ANYTHING ON THE WEB, DON'T WORRY! We will have a workshop on creating and mounting web content. You can also consult online tutorials as well as a page with some links to information on languages. A link to this information is found on the Linguistics 1 web site,

<http://www.linguistics.ucla.edu/people/schuh/lx001/>

You may select any language other than English. You may work as individuals or in groups of no more than three. If more than three students want to do the same language, we can set up two sites for that language. To prepare your site, you will be expected to do research, both on the World Wide Web and through consulting printed sources and/or native speakers of the language (who may be you or your classmates!), to obtain information about the language. Your site will contain (at least) the following:

- **Location and classification:** Information on where the language is spoken INCLUDING A MAP of the country or region, statistics on the number of speakers (both first and second language, if relevant), and classification of the language (what other languages is it related to?).
- **Sound system and writing:** Provide information on special features of the sound system, such as unusual sounds or large or small numbers of sounds compared to other languages. INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE SAMPLE SOUND that viewers of the page

can listen to. This can be a recording that you make or something borrowed from another web site. It can be any sort of sample, such as pronunciation of some words, some common greetings, a sentence or two, or a song. Some students have uploaded videos. Provide information on the writing system if the language has one. If it has special symbols or a non-Roman writing system, give some samples.

- Language structure: Give essential information about the structure of the language, especially about word orders along the lines that we will discuss in the second week of class. This section does not have to be extensive, but it should mention particularly noteworthy grammar features, such as a case system, grammatical gender, noun classes or noun classifying words (such as are found in many Asian languages), and anything else that seems noteworthy. Include sample sentences illustrating grammatical features. If you can, you might use sentences about “lizards and flies” parallel to those that we will discuss in class. Things like proverbs, riddles, or jokes would also be nice as examples.
- Cultural and social milieu: Talk about the cultural and social context of the language. Some questions you might address are the following:
 - ✓ Is the language used as a medium of instruction in schools?
 - ✓ Is there a “standardized” or “correct” form of the language distinct from everyday speech?
 - ✓ Is there a written and/or oral literature in the language?
 - ✓ Is the language prominent in any special cultural contexts, such as in religious texts and ceremonies or particular festivals or rituals?
 - ✓ Is the language used in broadcast or print media?

In this section, **INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE PICTURE** illustrating something about the cultural or social milieu. In the past, students have included a variety of multimedia material, such as music, video clips, and online games involving the language. A popular topic has been food, with words referring to typical foods of the culture and perhaps pictures of special dishes, people eating, and the like.

- Links: Include **AT LEAST THREE LINKS** (more if you like) to other web sites with information about the language and/or cultural milieu. You can embed these links in the sections above if that seems appropriate. Include comments on what can be found at the sites that you provide links to.
- Your e-mail: Include a link to your e-mail address, or addresses if two are three of you are working together. This will make it easy for me to send you comments.

Grading: Students who want Honors credit must take Linguistics 89 for a letter grade. Other students can enroll for a letter grade or P/NP. The basis for grading will be as follows:

4 th week: Tutorial on website creation: satisfactory creation of sample site	10 %
5 th week: Choose language & group (A sign-up sheet will be distributed in class. You should decide on a language and put together groups in advance.)	5 %
6 th week: <u>index.html</u> file posted on web with links (You should have your home page file, names <u>index.html</u> posted and available for viewing with at least one link to another page and one link to a graphic.)	10 %
8 th week: At least one sound file or other multimedia file posted (Your site should have at least one audio or video file posted and working.)	5 %
10 th week: Pre-full site, ready for comments and revisions	10%
Final site:	60% total
Ease of use (navigation, etc.)	10%
Location & classification:	10%
Sounds, including audio file(s):	20%
Grammar:	10%
Culture. including graphic(s):	10%