



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

LING 505
Field Methods for Indigenous Languages
Winter 2023
M 15:00 – 17:45
SA 119

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Corey Telfer

OFFICE LOCATION: Craigie Hall C 128 (CHC 128)

OFFICE HOURS: Mon 11 am – 1 pm, or by appointment. Online Zoom meetings are available by appointment and will use this link: <https://ucalgary.zoom.us/j/5229756698>

E-MAIL: corey.telfer@ucalgary.ca

DESCRIPTION

"Principles and techniques of collecting, editing and analyzing elicited linguistic data and associated problems. Practical experience with language consultant(s)." (Calendar)

OBJECTIVES

Prepare students for independent fieldwork, by working directly with one or more fluent speakers of an Indigenous language spoken in Canada (Stoney Nakoda in Winter 2023). The goal is mutual capacity building and mentoring. The language consultant(s) will help each student to document and analyze a unique aspect of their language, by allowing students to access their implicit knowledge with relatively simple questions, tasks, and activities prepared by students. Students will package their findings in two ways: as a language learning exercise or project that might be appreciated by the language consultant or their community (e.g., language teachers), and as a research paper of interest to the scientific community. The course aims to contribute to Indigenization efforts at the University of Calgary. These institutional efforts and their broader context will require students to delve into a critical study of the historical, social, cultural, political, and economic factors impacting on language loss, retention, and reclamation. The ultimate focus of the course will be research on and application of methodologies for collaborative, transdisciplinary, community-based documentation and reclamation of the vast Indigenous linguistic heritage in Canada.

OUTCOMES

- language documentation corpus hosted at roamresearch.com/#/app/nadene and Sharepoint
- community-oriented project co-authored with Indigenous Elder
- scientific research project

PREREQUISITES

This course requires LING 301 (Syntax I) and 303 (Phonology I) or equivalent.



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REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Meakins, Felicity, Jennifer Green, & Myfany Turpin. 2018. *Understanding Linguistic Fieldwork* (1st ed.). Routledge.

ASSESSMENT

Data elicitation:	20%
Corpus creation:	10%
Research paper proposal:	30%
Linguistics research paper:	40%

GRADING SCALE

Course grades will be assigned on a distribution that is NOT more restrictive than the one below:

A+ 97-100%	B+ 84-88%	C+ 69-73%	D+ 54-58%
A 93-96%	B 79-83%	C 64-68%	D 50-53%
A- 89-92%	B- 74-78%	C- 59-63%	F 0-49%

COURSE NOTES

ATTENDANCE:

Attending class is critical for carrying out elicitation, but also from observing others and learning more about the language in general. If you cannot attend lectures for some reason, please feel free to ask the instructor about any missed content.

DATA ELICITATION:

Preparation for questions and expected types of answers is critical for gathering linguistic information with collaborators. This will include researching any available publications on the language or closely related languages, as well as having a basic understanding of the linguistic forms that have been documented in other languages.

CORPUS CREATION:

Students will record, clip, transcribe, gloss and share their work with the rest of the class online. It will also be important to share metadata and field notes. More details will be provided in a separate document.

RESEARCH PAPER PROPOSAL:

Students will submit a paper proposal partway through the course to help make sure they are on the right track. This will simply be a short summary of what the student hopes to learn about the language, with a few preliminary examples taken from existing sources or provided by the speakers in the initial few classes.

LINGUISTICS RESEARCH PAPER:

Students will choose one small area of the language that they wish to investigate further. This project should be quite limited in scope, as there is not time in a single semester to document an entire language. Very short proposals (one or two sentences) will be expected earlier in the semester to ensure that the student is on the right track. These papers will be written individually, however you can collaborate with others in the research process if someone is working on something closely related (for example students investigating the phonetics of different speech sounds may wish to compare their early results and discuss different approaches to measurements).

ABSENCE AND LATE WORK:

As mentioned above, attendance is critical to succeeding in this course, so please let the instructor know if you are unable to attend for any reason. Please let the instructor know as soon as possible if you cannot complete a project before the due date. Unexcused late submissions will result in a grade of zero.



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PROPOSED ELICITATION SCHEDULE:

Day	Suggested Topics	Notes
Jan. 9	Ethics, Historical Factors, & Cultural Differences Stoney Nakoda Orthography	
Jan. 16	Phonetics & Phonology: Speech Sounds, Vowel Ablaut & Palatalization	
Jan. 23	Sociolinguistics: Gendered Speech, Formality, Familial Variation & Intergenerational Variation	
Jan. 30	Phonetics & Phonology: Prosody	
Feb. 6	Morphology: Declarative Suffixes, Verb Classes, Pronouns, Pronominal Affixes, Plurals, & Animacy	
Feb. 13	Syntax: Demonstratives, Determiners & Simple Phrases	Paper Proposal due: Friday, Feb. 17
Feb. 20	No Class - Term Break	
Feb. 27	Semantics: Verbs of Motion, Temporal Marking, Body Part Divisions, Colours, & the Kinship System	
Mar. 6	Morphosyntax: Reflexives & Reciprocals	
Mar. 13	Morphosyntax: Nominalization & Compounds	
Mar. 20	Morphosyntax: Imperatives & Negation	
Mar. 27	Morphosyntax/Semantics: 'Locative' Prefixes, Instrumental Prefixes, Speaker-Oriented Modal Suffixes	
Apr. 3	Syntax: Modification Morphosyntax: Dative/Benefactive Constructions	
Apr. 10	Syntax: Conjunctions, Multi-Verb Constructions, & Relative Clauses	
		Research Paper due: Friday, Apr. 21



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INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>, and <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.



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FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.