Instructor Information
Instructor: Shiti Malhotra
Office: 549 Nightingale Hall
Email: s.malhotra@neu.edu
Phone: 617-373-3454
Office hours: 11:45am-1:15pm Tuesdays and Fridays or by appointment

Class Meetings: Section 1- 3:25 pm - 5:05 pm TF, Ryder Hall 215
Section 2- 1:35 pm-3:15 pm TF, Snell Library 001

Course Description:
This class is structured as a lab course, rather than a standard lecture/seminar course. Class periods will be spent learning techniques of data collection and/or discussing strategies for analyzing and describing that data.

Goals of the course:
This course is designed to get hands on experience of language data analysis. In this class we will investigate the phonetics, phonological, morphological and syntactic structures of a particular language. The objectives for the students enrolled in this course are;
• to develop an understanding of the core properties of human language.
• to learn some of the basic methodology used by linguists in gathering data, making generalizations, formulating and testing hypotheses, choosing between competing theories
• to gain an appreciation for the diversity among languages while at the same time discovering elements common to all languages

Prerequisite: LING 1150 (formerly LINU150/ENGU150)

Evaluation
This course requires you to analyze a language that you have never studied or spoken before using the linguistic tools that you acquire and practice in the class. This language analysis project will be completed in four segments. Each segment will focus on one major area of linguistic inquiry, namely phonetics, phonology, morphology and syntax.

Breakdown of the final grade:
Project proposal (Language Overview)…….. 5%
Segment Project (Sounds: Phonetics &Phonology) … 30%
Segment Project (Words: Morphology)…20%
Segment Project (Sentences: Syntax)……….20%
Poster Presentation………….5%
Final Paper… 15%
Class Participation & Attendance……..5%
Total … 100%

Grading Scale:
94-100 A
90-93 A-
87-89 B+
83-86 B
80-82 B-
77-79 C +
73-76 C
70-72 C-
67-69 D+
63-66 D
60-62 D-
59 and below F
1. **Project Proposal**: The proposal must not exceed 500 words, and must contain the following information,
   (a) The reason for picking the language.
   (b) The sources you will use for the language,
   (i) List of references you think will be useful.
   (ii) Your language informant. Language informant must be a native speaker of that language.
   (c) Basic background about the language; language family, the area it is spoken etc.

2. **Segment papers**: You are expected to turn in the following 3 segment papers on your language.
   a. Sounds of the language (Phonetics & Phonology)
      -Part 1: Sounds Inventory of the language
      -Part 2: Phonemic Analysis of the language.
   b. Words of the language (Morphology)
   c. Sentences of the language (Syntax)

   Each segment paper will be evaluated in a two-tier process; peer review and final evaluation. This method replicates the process of publishing an article in a journal. Peer review will be conducted before the papers are turned in to the instructor, thus allowing students to have additional feedback and a chance to revise their work before the final submission (for grading). You will get points for peer reviewing a paper. A more detailed and careful review will get you more points.

   1. Sounds of the Language (30 points)
      a. First Part -5 points
      b. Paper Review-5 points
      c. Second Part-5 points
      d. Paper Review-5 points
      c. Final draft- 10 points
   
   2. Words of the Language (20 points)
      a. First Draft -5 points
      b. Paper Review-5 points
      c. Final Draft-10 points
   
   3. Sentences of the Language (20 points)
      a. First Draft -5 points
      b. Paper Review-5 points
      c. Final Draft-10 points
   
   3. Poster Presentations: You will have a final presentation. This final presentation will be in the form of a poster presentation due towards the end of the semester.

4. Final paper: The final paper will be a synopsis of the language. It should be of a general nature and sort of an amalgamation of the three segment papers. NO FINAL EXAM
Student Responsibilities

1. **Attend class.** Attendance is crucial to success in this class. You are expected to attend the lecture. You will be responsible for all the material covered in class as well as in the readings. There are, of course, good excuses for missing class, i.e., illness (verified by a doctor’s note), or other unavoidable documented emergencies.

2. **Communicate:** If you have any trouble with the course, or if you have an emergency where you need to miss class (especially more than one class), etc., make sure that you contact me as soon as possible to let me know what is happening. Letting me know of a problem in a timely way helps to make sure that I can accommodate your needs.

3. **Come to office hours.** Office hours are designed for students to come and get extra help, to talk in greater detail about interesting ideas, or to give feedback to the instructors about her teaching or the class in general. Make use of them! If you cannot attend a scheduled office hour but need help, contact me by email to set up an alternative meeting time. But please plan ahead! Give yourself plenty of time to complete assignments and if you are having trouble, make every effort to attend a scheduled office hour.

4. **Participate** in class discussion with thoughtful and constructive comments and questions. Participating in class is valuable because it helps you to be an active listener and increases the likelihood that you will understand and retain the material. Please ask questions in class if there is something you do not understand. Join the group! Do not sit in the back of the class (if at all possible).

**Important:**
- Avoid disruptive or distracting behavior such as using cellphone, doing homework for another class, web browsing (Facebook, twitter, and buying stuff online).
- **DO NOT COPY. DO NOT SUBMIT SOMEONE ELSE’S WORK AS YOUR OWN.** Plagiarized material (copied from a book or fellow student) will NOT be accepted for credit.

If I discover two assignments that have significant portions of identical material, I will assign a grade of “0” to both assignments and the case will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

If I receive a homework assignment with material copied from a book or article without proper citation, I will assign a grade of “0” to that assignment and the case will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

I follow the University’s policies on academic honesty. Northeastern University has a recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Northeastern for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism.

For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity, please visit http://www.northeastern.edu/osccr/academicintegrity/index.html#Guidelines.
**Tentative Schedule (subject to change!)**

This schedule is provided to give you a **rough landscape** of what the course will be like. Make sure to check the web page regularly for readings, assignments, and announcements.

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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Due dates</th>
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<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>Week 2 (1/20,1/23)</td>
<td>Exploring the Language</td>
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<td>Week 3 (1/27,1/30)</td>
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<td>Proposal (1/27)</td>
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<td>Week 4 (2/3,2/6)</td>
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<td>Week 5 (2/10, 2/13)</td>
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<td>Week 7 (2/24-2/27)</td>
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