English 727: Field Methods Class time: Th 4:10-6:50pm

**Instructor**: Jenny Lederer

**Email**: lederer@sfsu.edu

**Office**: HUM 430

**Office Hours**: Times and days listed on iLearn course website. (Please sign up on the Google Doc if you plan to attend office hours. Telephone and/or Skype communication easy to arrange as well.)

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Aho9XFckMu8IdGR6ZW5uSHR2bS1FNlNNSlp3UE5hNHc>

**Required Supplies:**

A non-loose-leaf notebook with acid-free paper at least 8 x 11 inches, such as:

[http://www.amazon.com/BookFactory%C2%AE-Large-Black-Blank-Notebook/dp/B00651EWBQ/ref=pd\_sim\_sbs\_201\_3?ie=UTF8&dpID=31IzBhmaKQL&dpSrc=sims&preST=\_AC\_UL160\_SR131%2C160\_&refRID=1QMAXXKQNBHJBVHJ1CWN](http://www.amazon.com/BookFactory%C2%AE-Large-Black-Blank-Notebook/dp/B00651EWBQ/ref%3Dpd_sim_sbs_201_3?ie=UTF8&dpID=31IzBhmaKQL&dpSrc=sims&preST=_AC_UL160_SR131%2C160_&refRID=1QMAXXKQNBHJBVHJ1CWN)

Pens with archival quality ink, such as:

[http://www.amazon.com/Sakura-30062-6-Piece-Pigma-Micron/dp/B0008G8G8Y/ref=sr\_1\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1452542202&sr=8-1&keywords=archival+pen](http://www.amazon.com/Sakura-30062-6-Piece-Pigma-Micron/dp/B0008G8G8Y/ref%3Dsr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1452542202&sr=8-1&keywords=archival+pen)

**Required Texts:**

1. *Linguistic Fieldwork*, *A Practical Guide* by Claire Bowern. 2008.

[http://www.amazon.com/Linguistic-Fieldwork-Practical-Claire-Bowern/dp/0230545386/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1452543544&sr=1-1&keywords=Linguistic+Fieldwork%2C+A+Practical+Guide+by+Claire+Bowern](http://www.amazon.com/Linguistic-Fieldwork-Practical-Claire-Bowern/dp/0230545386/ref%3Dsr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1452543544&sr=1-1&keywords=Linguistic+Fieldwork%2C+A+Practical+Guide+by+Claire+Bowern)

 **Rent or buy:**

2. *Describing Morphosyntax* by T. Payne (essential for reference throughout semester)

[http://www.amazon.com/Describing-Morphosyntax-Guide-Field-Linguists/dp/0521588057/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1452543608&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Describing-Morphosyntax-Guide-Field-Linguists/dp/0521588057/ref%3Dsr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1452543608&sr=1-1)

**Optional Texts:**

1. *Language Files*, Ohio State University (Introductory Linguistics Text)
2. *Linguistic Fieldwork*, Newman and Ratliff, (Anthology with chapters written by famous fieldworkers. We will read a selection (posted on iLearn) but if you are a serious fieldworker, you may want to purchase book.)

**Required iLearn readings**

**Many downloads and Websites listed on iLearn**

**Course Requirements and Grading**

1. Lexicon and Text 20%

2. Thumbnail Grammatical Sketch 30%

3. Data analysis and summaries (5 assignments/7% each) 35%

4. Text (frog story) Transcription 5%

5. Participation and preparation 10%

\* No late assignments will be accepted unless there are extreme mitigating circumstances.

**Using your common sense:**

1. Please turn off you cell phones when coming to class. No laptops out during class.

2. We will be working with a native speaker consultant. Please, as a courtesy to your classmates and our consultant, arrive on time.

3. Please be aware of the University code of ethics regarding plagiarism. The consequences of violating the code of ethics are severe.

**General principles and organization of the course:**

This course is unique in that after the first couple of weeks, it is not possible to predict the exact topic or direction a class session will take, hence it is purposefully vague on the syllabus. We will follow the basic procedures of conducting linguistic fieldwork, which entails establishing the phonemic inventory initially and then trying to tease apart the phonological, morphological, and syntactic properties of the language though guided elicitation sessions with our native speaker consultant.

Once we begin elicitation, the sessions will be organized in the following way:

1) Review of previous week’s findings: In order to review findings each week, you will be expected to analyze your data weekly to look for patterns that emerge in the language. This is an absolutely mandatory component of the course.

2) Data Collection and in-class analysis: During part of each class, we will divide our time between controlled elicitation and text collection/analysis. A balance between the two methods of data collection is most effective. Linguistics is a collaborative field. **Hence, you will be required to post your homework assignments on iLearn each week after you turn the assignment in.** iLearn should be used as a clearinghouse for observations and analyses made during this field methods course (I have set up a class wiki on iLearn specifically for this purpose.) You are required to read the analyses of your classmates and to discuss them amongst yourselves. You may use what is posted to inform your future analyses, **but you may not copy from work that is not yours**. All work that you turn in must be written entirely by you. Discussion leading up to the process of writing, however, is highly encouraged and recommended.

3) Elicitation will occur in groups of two or three, but I expect all groups to communicate with one another about the content of your elicitation as to not overlap in protocol. I will also expect each group to meet in person (or virtually) to decide on the content of their elicitation session. The protocol should be set well before class (being mindful that elicitation is always subject to real-time flexibility based on the interaction and data provided.) Not only do I want the protocol determined ahead of time, but I also want you to be able to explain why you are eliciting specific data (What are you trying to analyze and how is the data you are eliciting helpful towards that analysis?)

Language under investigation for Spring 2018: Korean, Consultant: Sanghun (Joey) Namgung

**Schedule**

**Week 1 1/25**

In class: Introduction & iLearn overview

At home: Work on biographical interview questions, a prompt for first narrative, and a list of some of the linguistic features we should be concerned with over the semester based on minimal reading (research ONLY this web page to gather phenomena (and not the embedded links): https://www.ethnologue.com/17/language/kor/ ).

*Investigate iLearn links and docs.*

Reading: Bowern Ch. 1, skim Ch. 2, Ch. 3, Ch. 11

 RW Dixon article on Field Methods class (iLearn)

**Week 2 2/1**

In class: Technology discussion; Research Ethics and Endangered Languages

 Biographical Interview, First Narrative

At home: prepare initial word-lists (Swadesh, etc.)

Reading: Bowern Ch. 4, Ch. 5, Ch. 8

**Week 3 2/8**

In class: Field Work Methodology

 First Word Lists (Swadesh, etc.)

At home: Start work on Phonemic Analysis, Basic Lexicon

Reading: Everett, Monolingual Elicitation, (iLearn)

**Week 4 2/15**

In class: Fieldwork Methodology (focused on phonemic inventory)

At home: Phonemic Analysis, Basic Lexicon, Paradigms and Simple Sentences

Reading : T. Payne (should have gone through whole book)

**Week 5 2/22**

In class: Fieldwork Methodology (focused on phonemic inventory & suprasegmentals)

At home: Phonemic Analysis, Basic Lexicon, Paradigms and Simple Sentences

Homework (not for grade): Work up a phonemic inventory and other observations so far

Reading : Bowern Ch. 6, Ch. 7, Ch. 9

***Payne should be skimmed and used as needed in elicitation prep and analysi*s (throughout whole semester.)**

**Week 6 3/1**

In class: Continue Elicitation of Basic Lexicon, Paradigms

**Due: Homework 1, 1) Data Analysis Write-Up. 2) Post Data Analysis on iLearn**

At home: Data analysis

Reading: Skim Lehman *Root, Stems, Word Classes* (for morphology review) (iLearn)

**Week 7 3/8**

In class: Data collection and Text Work

At home: Start transcription of one frog-story narrative (due 4/7)

Reading: Lehman, *Interlinear Morphemic Translation* (iLearn)

 Chelliah, *Text Collection*…, in preparation for text analysis (iLearn)

**Week 8 3/15**

In class: Data collection and Text Work continued

**Due: Homework 2, 1) Data Analysis Write-Up. 2) Post Data Analysis on Ilearn**

At home: Data analysis, transcription

Read: Dimmendaal on fieldwork in the field (iLearn)

 Gil, Escaping Eurocentrism (iLearn)

 Maddieson, Phonetic Fieldwork (iLearn)

**Week 9 3/22 Spring Break**

**Week 10 3/29**

In class: Data collection and Text Work continued (Topics to be determined in class)

At home: Data analysis

**Week 11 4/5**

In class: Data collection and Text Work continued (Topics to be determined in class)

**Due: Frog story transcription**

At home: Data analysis

**Week 12 4/12**

In class: Data collection and Text Work continued (Topics to be determined in class)

**Due: Homework 3 : 1) Data Analysis Write-Up. 2) Post Data Analysis on iLearn**

At home: Data analysis

**Week 13 4/19**

In class: Data collection and Text Work continued (Topics to be determined in class)

**Due: Homework 4 : 1) Data Analysis Write-Up. 2) Post Data Analysis on iLearn**

At home: Data analysis

**Week 14 4/26**

In class: Data collection and Text Work (Topics to be determined in class)

**Due: Homework 5, 1) Data Analysis Write-Up. 2) Post Data Analysis on iLearn**

At home: Data analysis

**Week 15 5/3**

In class: Wrapping up loose ends in Data Collection (Topics to be determined in class)

**Assignment Due: Lexicon and Texts**

At home: Data analysis

**Week 16 5/10 Last Day Wrap-Up, Dinner Out**

**Assignment Due: Thumbnail Sketch**

**Disability access**

Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor.  The Disability Programs and Resource Center (DPRC) is available to facilitate the reasonable accommodations process. The DPRC is located in the Student Service Building and can be reached by telephone (voice/415-338-2472, video phone/415-335-7210) or by email (dprc@sfsu.edu).

**Student disclosures of sexual violence**

SF State fosters a campus free of sexual violence including sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and/or any form of sex or gender discrimination.  If you disclose a personal experience as an SF State student, the course instructor is required to notify the Title IX Coordinator by completing the report form available at [http://titleix.sfsu.edu](http://titleix.sfsu.edu/), emailing vpsaem@sfsu.edu or calling 338-2032.

**To disclose any such violence confidentially, contact:**

         The SAFE Place - (415) 338-2208; <http://www.sfsu.edu/~safe_plc/>

         Counseling and Psychological Services Center - (415) 338-2208; <http://psyservs.sfsu.edu/>

         For more information on your rights and available resources: [http://titleix.sfsu.edu](http://titleix.sfsu.edu/)