

Western University
Interdisciplinary MA in Linguistics
LINGUISTICS 9500Q/95001Q 2020
GRADUATE RESEARCH SEMINAR

Instructor: Jacques Lamarche
Class time: Friday 9:30-11:00AM
UC2120

email: lamarche@uwo.ca
Office hours: by appointment

Zoomroom: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/8755907895>

Course description

As part of your training in linguistics, you will develop valuable transferrable skills that can be effectively applied in a wide range of job settings. This course aims to help students identify and strengthen their marketable skills and learn to present themselves effectively to prospective employers both within and outside of academia. These skills include time management, oral communication, grant writing, teaching, leadership, research, project management, editing, interpersonal skills, and an appreciation of ethical and civic responsibility. The course emphasizes peer and participatory learning and includes a series of collaborative and individual exercises that will not only serve to enrich students' skills, but also provide them with concrete experiences to add to their CVs.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- describe a range of strategies to improve your work efficiency and productivity
- utilize a range of online tools to search for and manage research articles
- write and present for a range of audiences more effectively than you did previously
- effectively and quickly incorporate constructive feedback into your writing and presentations
- provide constructive, specific, actionable feedback to peers
- identify steps you can take to improve your chances on the job market and begin implementing them
- market yourself more effectively to a range of prospective employers both within and outside of academia

Assessments

- Grant application with budget: two-page proposal, a budget and a budget justification (Oct. 8)
- TBD (Oct. 22) – something related to communicating linguistics to non-linguists OR editing Wikipedia
- Conference abstract (Nov. 12)
- Group project (Display case exhibits/Videos for website/Podcast) (Dec. 4)

Tentative schedule

| DATE | TOPIC | DUE |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| September 10 | Meet and great | |
| September 17 | Grant writing | |
| September 24 | Virtual visit to Library (TBC) | |
| October 1 | Workshop - Grant writing | |
| October 8 | Linguistics for non-linguists | Grant application |
| October 15 | Y2 presentations | |
| October 22 | Display cases/Videos | |
| October 29 | Conference abstracts | TBD |
| November 5 | Workshop – abstracts | |
| November 12 | Jobs – academia and beyond | Abstract |
| November 19 | CVs and cover letters | |
| December 4 | Reflection on group project | Exhibit/Video/Podcast |

Questions and Concerns

I'm here to help. Please ask if expectations are ever unclear, if you are struggling with course material, or you have questions or concerns related to the course. I'll do my very best to clear things up.

Statement on Scholastic Offences

Western takes scholastic offences seriously; a student guilty of a scholastic offence may be subject to the imposition of one or more penalties, ranging from reprimand to expulsion from the university, as well as criminal proceedings where appropriate. Please review the appropriate [policy document](#), particularly the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence:

Health and Wellness at Western

As part of a successful graduate student experience at Western, we encourage students to make their health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your graduate degree. For example, all students receive free membership at [Western's Campus Recreation Centre](#). Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year; see the web pages of the [Faculty of Music](#), and [McIntosh Gallery](#). Information regarding health- and wellness-related services available to students may be found at <http://www.health.uwo.ca/>

Students seeking help regarding mental health concerns are advised to speak to someone they feel comfortable confiding in, such as their faculty supervisor, their program director (graduate chair), or other relevant administrators in their unit. Campus mental health resources may be found at http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/resources.html

To help you learn more about mental health, Western has developed an [interactive mental health learning module](#). This module is 30 minutes in length and provides participants with a basic understanding of mental health issues and of available campus and community resources.

After successful completion of the module, participants receive a certificate confirming their participation.

Accessibility at Western

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. For Western's commitment to Accessibility, visit: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca/>