
INDEPENDENT STUDY: RACE, LANGUAGE AND ETHNICITY THROUGH INTERVIEW DATA

SPRING 2018

In this one (1) credit, pass/fail, independent study you will learn about the complex social structures surrounding race, language and ethnicity in Miami, Florida through reading and data processing.

INDEPENDENT STUDY OBJECTIVES

In this independent study you will:

1. transcribe interview data;
2. discuss materials and concepts related to linguistic variation;
3. demonstrate an understanding of the linguistic situation of Miami and language variation in the US.

MEETING

We will meet in my office on a weekly or bi-weekly basis (time and day TBD) to discuss readings, workshop transcription methods, and discuss any issues you may have. In this meeting I expect that you will have read the previous week's assigned paper so that we can have an active discussion about it and its implications for the data. See the attached "Semester Outline" for the topics of these meetings. You will notice that there are more meetings towards the beginning of the semester than the end, this is to ensure you understand the basics of the transcription process before you get too far into the semester.

READING

The readings for this course primarily surround race, ethnicity, and language variation and can be found in the BuckeyeBox subfolder titled "Readings."

TRANSCRIPTION

As mentioned above, the work, outside of reading and discussion, involved in this independent study is transcribing linguistic interview data from participants. Files for transcription can be found in the BuckeyeBox subfolder titled "UntranscribedSoundFiles." Before you begin working on a sound file, please move the file to your own work folder to avoid multiple people working on the same file simultaneously. While transcribing, I expect that you will think about the sociolinguistic concepts we have discussed in our meetings.

In lieu of two hours of transcription, please attend at least one of the follow talks:

TBA

FUTURE INDEPENDENT STUDY WORK

The completion of this independent study opens to option to design and conduct a research project using the data transcribed in a subsequent independent study in the Summer or Fall 2018 semesters. You will work directly with me and your peers, if you like, to learn about the research process, analyze your data, and write/submit an abstract to present your findings at a conference.

READINGS

- Blake, Renée. 2016. Toward Heterogeneity: A sociolinguistic perspective on the classification of Black people in the twenty-first century. In H. Samy Alim, John R. Rickford, and Arnetta F. Ball (eds). *Raciolinguistics*.
- Carter, Phillip M. and Andrew Lynch. 2015. Multilingual Miami: Current Trends in Sociolinguistic Research. *Language and Linguistics Compass* 9(9): 369-385.
- Fought, Carmen. 2006. Ch. 2: Language and the construction of ethnic identity. *Language and Ethnicity*. Cambridge University press.
- Fought, Carmen. 2006. Ch. 3: African American Groups *Language and Ethnicity*. Cambridge University press.
- Fought, Carmen. 2006. Ch. 4: Latino Groups *Language and Ethnicity*. Cambridge University press.
- Fought, Carmen. 2006. Ch. 7: Dialect contact, ethnicity, and language change. *Language and Ethnicity*. Cambridge University press.
- Goodwin, Marjorie Harness 1990. *He-Said-She-Said: Talk as Social Organization Among Black Children*. Indiana University Press (Transcription Symbols Excerpt)
- Oliver, Daniel G., Julianne M. Serovich and Tina L. Mason. 2005. Constraints and Opportunities with Interview Transcription: Towards Reflection (Excerpt)
- Rickford, John Russell. 1997. Unequal partnership: Sociolinguistics and the African American speech community. *Language in Society* 26, 161-197.

SEMESTER OUTLINE

Week 1	Meeting:	Initial Group Meeting Discuss Syllabus, expectations, work
	Homework:	Transcribe the 5-minute segment provided What was easy/difficult? Note any questions you have. Download ELAN and get it working Read: Oliver, Serovich and Mason 2005 Excerpt Read: Goodwin 1990 Excerpt: Transcription Symbols
Week 2	Meeting:	Discussion: How did your transcription go? Workshop: Transcription using Elan
	Homework:	Transcribe the 10-minute segment provided using the methods discussed. Time how long it takes you. Write down any questions that arise. Read: Fought 2012 Chapter 2: Language and the construction of ethnic Identity
Week 3	Meeting:	Discussion: Language Variation Discussion: Tips for transcribing smoothly/faster. Answer student questions.
	Homework	Transcribe for 3 hours. Write down any questions that arise. Read: Fought 2006 Chapter 3: African American Groups (Optional Reading Fought 2006 Chapter 4: Latino Groups)
Week 4	Meeting:	Discussion: What is African American Language?
	Homework:	Transcribe for 3 hours Reading: Fought 2006 Ch. 7: Dialect contact, ethnicity, and language change
Week 5	Meeting:	Discussion: How language/dialect contact may have come into play in this data
	Homework:	Transcribe for 3 hours
Week 6	No Meeting	
	Homework:	Transcribe for 3 hours Read: Carter and Lynch 2015
Week 7	Meeting:	Discussion: Miami as a speech community
	Homework:	Transcribe for 3 hours
Week 8	No Meeting	
	Homework:	Transcribe for 3 hours

Week 9 Meeting: Update on progress
Homework: Transcribe for 3 hours
Read: Blake 2016

Spring Break

Week 10 **No Meeting**
Homework: Transcribe 3 hours

Week 11 Meeting: Discussion: Blackness in the U.S.
Homework: Transcribe 3 hours

Week 12 **No Meeting**
Homework Transcribe for 3 hours
Read: Rickford 1997

Week 13 Meeting: Discussion: Issues in sociolinguistic research
Homework: Transcribe 3 hours

Week 14 **No Meeting**
Homework: Transcribe for 3 hours

Week 15 Meeting: Wrap up. Plan summer (if they are continuing).
