LINGUISTICS 851-4  
Research Techniques and Experimental Design

Instructor: Dr. Y. Wang  
Office: RCB 9213 | 778.782.6924  
Email: yuew@sfu.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

We will discuss the use of experimental methods and laboratory techniques for carrying out research in speech and language sciences. The goal is to provide a foundation for designing and conducting your own research as well as to assist in reading critically the research literature in your particular area of linguistics. We will consider basic research design and application of appropriate statistical measures. We will begin by discussing how testable hypotheses can be used to address theoretical questions, and then examine how a hypothesis becomes the basis for designing and carrying out an experiment. From there we will discuss how descriptive and analytic statistics can be used to objectively evaluate the hypothesis being tested and how results can be interpreted in light of prior research. By the end of the course you should be familiar with the critical components of empirical research and have a basis for incorporating these into your own research.

REQUIRED TEXTS:


RECOMMENDED READINGS


COURSE GRADING:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project and Presentations</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students should familiarize themselves with the Department's Standards on Class Management and Student Responsibilities at [http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/undergraduate/standards.html](http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/undergraduate/standards.html).

Please note that a grade of “FD” may be assigned as a penalty for academic dishonesty.
All student requests for accommodations for their religious practices must be made in writing by the end of the first week of classes or no later than one week after a student adds a course.

Students requiring accommodations as a result of a disability must contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities (778-782-3112 or csdo@sfu.ca).