

LING 6380: Field Methods

Spring 2014 Syllabus and Course Policies

Instructor: Dr. Colleen Fitzgerald
Office number: 132H Hammond Hall
Office telephone number: 817-272-3133
Email address: cmfitz@uta.edu
Faculty profile: <https://www.uta.edu/mentis/public/#profile/profile/view/id/2248>
Web page: <http://www.uta.edu/faculty/cmfitz>
Office Hours: Tuesday 11:00 am – 12:15 pm and by appointment
Section info: LING 6380 Section 001
Time and place of meetings: W 4:00 pm – 6:50 pm, Hammond Hall 132i (Ling Conference Room)

Description of course content:

This course is a continuation of Ling 5380, an investigation into Cherokee. We will continue to work to learn as much as possible about this language, but now our efforts will be concentrated on developing a set of original research questions into the language, which reflects and responds to both the published on the language (and its relatives in the Iroquoian family), as well as the data collected in work with speakers through the class.

Building on skills developed and knowledge obtained in Ling 5380, students will undertake a substantial community-oriented service project and traditional ecological knowledge project, in conjunction with Cherokee Language Program needs this semester.

Note: Our work with Cherokee this year is possible due to discussions with the Cherokee Language Program and with approval of Cherokee Nation's IRB. Our IRB approval requires prior approval of any abstracts, conference talks, or publications on Cherokee, from Cherokee Nation, with submission due one month in advance of the deadline. (See policy document.)

This is the second semester of a two-semester sequence, with enrollment in LING 6380 Field Methods Seminar continuing work on the same language in the spring; students cannot take LING 6380 without first completing LING 5380.

Student learning outcomes:

Students who successfully complete LING 5380 Field Methods should be able to do the following:

- Demonstrate an ability to work with linguistic consultants and communities, with the goal to contribute to a community-driven service project.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical issues that are at play in doing linguistic fieldwork.
- Demonstrate an ability to work with the technological tools for linguistic documentation (FLEx, Elan, etc.) – both will be components of the service and TEK projects

Student learning outcomes:

Students who successfully complete LING 5380 Field Methods should be able to do the following:

- Demonstrate an ability to work with linguistic consultants and communities, with the goal to contribute to a community-driven service project.

Required Texts and Resources

Handbook of Linguistic Fieldwork. 2012. Nicholas Thieberger, editor.

Plus additional readings and resources in Blackboard and Dropbox

Blackboard

<http://elearn.uta.edu/>

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:

- Research Project: (50% of overall grade) Design your own research project in Cherokee, starting with elicitations, and making sure to carefully consult and incorporate the published literature, culminating in a final paper, abstract, and PRESENTATION (?).
- Service Learning Project and Reflections: (25% of overall grade): In conjunction with Cherokee Nation's Language Program, we will help out with their language program goals, some of which include assistance with FLEx training, with using the database they have, and with preparing language videos for dissemination via their YouTube channel.
- Traditional Ecological Project : (25% of overall grade): We will together, and with the Cherokee Language Program and other interested students, do a project that involves working with (it appears) Cherokee ethnobotany, creating language videos on this topic, providing subtitles and transcription in the language; we will (also likely together with Roy Boney, Jr., the Manager of CLP) draft an abstract on this project for submission to ICLDC 2015. There is funding to cover a trip to Tahlequah; ideally this may occur around April 10-11, when other revitaliation activities are going on at NSU. We may also work with Cherokee team members who come onsite to UTA.

Note on Assignments:

Final due dates on assignments will be announced in class. Research project final paper and abstract are due April 2; all assignments must be complete at noon on the 'exam date' for the class, May 9.

Attendance:

Students cannot successfully complete the course without attending most meetings and preparing and conducting elicitations with our speaker consultant.

Other requirements:

As is the practice at most departments that offer rigorous training in language documentation and description, the course will also necessitate additional time commitments to enhance your understanding of the language (individual/small group meetings with speakers, group meta-discussion and debriefing of data and methods readings, etc.).

Grading:

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the GTAs or instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

Grading:

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the GTAs or instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

Make up exams: No make up test or quizzes are permitted.
Shared references site for Cherokee sources <http://dropbox.com> Folder: Cherokee Sources (enrolled class members will receive an invitation to the folder; software installation is required)

Teaching Assistant: Libby Tatz
Office: Trimble Hall 217E
Phone: 817-272-3133
Office Hours: TBA
Email: elizabeth.tatz@mavs.uta.edu

Note: Our work with Cherokee this year is possible due to discussions with the Cherokee Nation Language Program. Please be advised that we have approval requirements on the data collected prior to its use in publication and conference presentations. It is your ethical obligation to be aware of and follow any such conditions as they are announced both during the class and after it is complete.

Grading Policy:

Students must turn in work on time in order to receive full credit. Assignments turned in late will receive a deduction of a letter grade.

A-	90-92 %	B-	80-82 %	C-	70-72	D-	60-62%	F	59 or lower
A	93-96 %	B	83-86 %	C	73-76	D	63-66		
A+	97-100 %	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69		

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence. I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is past the elevators to the left of the criminology department. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never

take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.