FINAL-YEAR PROJECT FROM 2017/18: LG831-6-FY LINGUISTICS PROJECT

KAREN ROEHR-BRACKIN
All undergraduate students at the university will complete a final-year project

For students on linguistics degrees in our department: LG831-6-FY Linguistics Project

Module director: Dr Vineeta Chand

You can do the Linguistics Project in any of the sub-areas of linguistics covered by the department
PURPOSE OF THE FINAL-YEAR PROJECT

- You get the opportunity to demonstrate and apply knowledge and skills built up throughout your course
- You can develop (further) a number of skills that are useful both during your studies and in the future, e.g. at work:
  - Working independently on an extended project relevant to your discipline
  - Time management
  - Bibliographical and internet-based research skills
  - Empirical research skills including data collection and analysis
  - Interpretation and contextualisation of results
  - Selection and synthesis of information
  - Reporting clearly and concisely and in different formats (text, visuals, etc.)
PRACTICALITIES: CHOICE OF PROJECT TOPIC

- (1) You will be provided with a list of topic options offered by different supervisors
  - You choose a topic that you are interested in and have some background on
- Or:
  - (2) You propose your own topic and present this to a supervisor with relevant expertise
- But note:
  - An independent topic proposal must be sufficiently focused for it to be agreed on between you and the supervisor in a single meeting
PRACTICALITIES: WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO DO

- You will prepare and submit a project proposal.
- You will then undertake your research project with advice and guidance provided by the supervisor.
- You will prepare and submit an 8,000-word report that presents the project in full.
- You will prepare, submit and give a poster presentation which summarises the project.
TIMELINE: WHAT YOU NEED TO DO THIS ACADEMIC YEAR

- Summer Term: Choose a topic from the given list or develop your own topic; approach a supervisor with relevant expertise
- Prepare and submit a proposal approved by the supervisor
- → One meeting with supervisor
- Start of Week 30 – Topic list is made available
- End of Week 31 – All students allocated to supervisors
- Weeks 31-33 – Students meet supervisors
- Weeks 31-37 – Development of full project proposal
- Week 38 – Submission of project proposal
- Summer vacation: Start reading about your topic
TIMELINE: WHAT YOU WILL DO IN YOUR FINAL YEAR

- Autumn Term: Write literature review, finalise research questions and collect data
- Two meetings with supervisor: Students report on progress, discuss any questions, get advice on methodology, etc.
- Spring Term: Analyse data and write report
- Two meetings with supervisor: Students report on progress, present an outline of their report, get advice on writing up, etc.
- Easter vacation: Finalise project report
- Summer Term: Submit project report; prepare, submit and present poster
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Submission date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project proposal</td>
<td>400 words</td>
<td>Week 38 (2\textsuperscript{nd} year)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project report</td>
<td>8,000 words</td>
<td>Week 30 (final year)</td>
<td>80%</td>
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<td>Poster</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Week 32 (final year) (plus presentation in the Summer Term)</td>
<td>10%</td>
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WHO NEEDS TO DO THE PROJECT IN OUR DEPARTMENT?

- All students on the following courses:
  - BA English Language
  - BA English Language and Linguistics
  - BA Linguistics
  - BA English Language and Language Development
  - BA English Language and TEFL
  - BA English Language and Literature
  - BA English Language and Sociology
  - Students on BA English Language and History can choose whether to complete the project in Language and Linguistics or in History
All students on the following courses will do the Linguistics Project:

- BA Modern Languages and English Language
- BA Modern Languages and Linguistics
- BA Modern Languages and TEFL
QUESTIONS?

- Contact the module director:
  - vineeta@essex.ac.uk