

*The University of Western Ontario*  
*Department of Modern Languages and Literatures*

**“Field Methods  
SP9713B/LIN9237B**

Lecture: Thursdays (2.30-5.30pm) in UC3320

Professor: Olga Tararova  
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Office hours: by appointment  
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This graduate seminar provides a thorough introduction to the principles and practice of linguistic fieldwork. A wide range of topics will be covered, from data collection techniques to the theoretically informed analysis of the collected data in two subfields of linguistics (phonetics and morphosyntax). We will work with a language consultant throughout this course to apply the knowledge we gain to elicitation of data and writing a squib. The seminar is designed for students interested in incorporating linguistics data into research in theoretical linguistics. Course taught in English.

i Linguistic Fieldwork

i Payne, Thomas E. (1997). Describing morphosyntax: a guide for field linguists  
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

i Analysing sociolinguistic variation

i Introduction to Linguistic Field Methods

This course aims to achieve the following:

- x Learn to apply linguistic knowledge to the collection and analysis of raw data by working with a speaker of an unknown language
- x Learn how to manage and organize linguistic data in both a data base and on paper
- x Get familiarized with ELAN software
- x Develop best strategies in writing a solid proposal and a grammar squib
- x Critically assess previous literature while writing accurate literature review section
- x Gain insight and improve interpersonal skills while working with a language consultant

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- x Critically access the population by creating scientific hypotheses and appropriate research questions
- x



**Late or Missed Tests:**

Students who miss a test will be assigned a mark of zero unless they can provide the instructor with appropriate documentation. Please note that the weighting of tests, and class assignments cannot be modified or changed. It is your responsibility to contact me immediately if you miss a midterm or class assignment. No make-ups will be allowed without the presentation of the appropriate documentation UWO's Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:

plagiarism very seriously. The University of Western Ontario outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences (refer to Scholastic Offense Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and

3: Thursday, Jan 23	<b>STUDYING MORPHOLOGY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i Assessing morphological variation</li> <li>i Methods &amp; Interpretation</li> <li>i <b>ELAN training</b></li> </ul>	Milroy & Gordon (2006) Payne T.E. (Ch2, Ch4)
4: Thursday, Jan 30	<b>DATA COLLECTION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i Where to start, how to access the population</li> <li>i Forming questions &amp; hypotheses</li> <li>i Russian elicitation (1)</li> </ul>	Tagliamonte (2006) Ch 2 & Ch 4. Dimmendaal, G. J. (2001)
5: Thursday, Feb 6		



I hope you enjoy the course -