



## **Linguistics Program, University of Western Ontario**

### **LINGUISTICS 9500Q/95001Q GRADUATE RESEARCH SEMINAR, FALL 2024**

Instructor: Jacques Lamarche                      e-mail: [lamarche@uwo.ca](mailto:lamarche@uwo.ca)      Office: UC3122  
Seminar time: Friday 11:00-12:30              Classroom: UC 2120  
Office hours: Wednesday 10:00- 11:30 or by appointment (Zoom or not).

#### **Course description**

As part of your training in linguistics, you will develop valuable transferrable skills that can be effectively applied in a wide range of work settings. This course aims to help students identify and strengthen their transferable skills and learn to present themselves effectively to prospective employers both within and outside of academia. These skills include time management, oral communication, grant writing, teaching, leadership, research, project management, editing, interpersonal skills, and an appreciation of ethical and civic responsibility. The course emphasizes peer and participatory learning and includes a series of collaborative and individual exercises that will not only serve to enrich students' skills, but also provide them with concrete experiences to add to their CVs.

#### **Learning outcomes**

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- describe a range of strategies to improve your work efficiency and productivity;
- utilize a range of online tools to search for and manage research articles;
- write and present for a range of audiences more effectively than you did previously
- provide constructive, specific, actionable feedback to peers;
- effectively and quickly incorporate constructive feedback into your writing and presentations;
- identify steps you can take to improve your chances on the job market and begin implementing them;
- present yourself more effectively to a range of prospective employers both within and outside of academia.

#### **Assessment (course is PASS-FAIL)**

- Grant application (October 14)
- Conference abstract (November 2)
- Draft research proposal and feedback (Year 2 would present state of research)
- Job application package: two job ads, CVs, cover letters (December: TBD)
- Group project (suggestion): editing for [Western Papers in Linguistics](#) or for Wikipedia (TBD)
- Other Group Project possibilities: to be discussed.

*The University of Western Ontario and our daily lives are situated on the traditional lands of Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton (Neutral) peoples, at the forks of Deshkan Ziibi (Antler River), an area subject to the Dish with One Spoon Wampum and other treaties.*

As teachers, researchers and students involved in languages and linguistics, we should pay particular attention to the Calls for Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that concern Indigenous languages (see <https://nctr.ca/records/reports/#highlighted-reports> "TRC Calls for Action", under Language and Culture, #13-17).

**Tentative schedule (subject to change: please watch for updates)**

DATE	TOPIC	DUE
September 6	Meet and greet: introduction and overview.	
September 13	Workshop with Librarian	
September 20	Writing & Time Management (n.b. Academic Integrity Module, if not already completed)	Decide on group project
September 27	Proposal writing	
October 4	Workshop – research proposals	
October 11	Y1 Presentation of draft of proposal	Proposal
October 18	Reading week	
October 25	Conference abstracts: why and how?	bring a draft on topic of your choice: be ready to give feedback)
November 1	Scholarly editing vs. editing for non-linguists	
November 8	Workshop: Ethics. TBC	Abstract for conference
November 15	TCPS 2 CORE tutorial or WREMS application	
November 22	Jobs (academic & beyond): TBC	Drafts for group project
November 29	Reflection on group project, wrap-up.	Finalize group project

**Questions and Concerns**

I'm here to help, both with this seminar and with your MA more generally. Please ask if expectations are ever unclear in this course or in our MA program, if you are struggling with course material, or you have questions or concerns related to the course or your studies at Western. I'll do my very best to help clear things up.

### **Statement on Scholastic Offences**

Western takes scholastic offences seriously: it is each student's responsibility to read, understand and follow the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence:

<https://grad.uwo.ca/gradNet/secure/FormsDocuments/files/Graduate%20Student%20Academic%20Appeals%20Policy.pdf>

Collaboration is normal in linguistics as in other sciences; plagiarism is a serious academic offense at UWO and elsewhere, sanctionable by consequences up to and including expulsion. For more information on this subject, please see the detailed information in the academic calendar as well as in the following link:

<https://teaching.uwo.ca/teaching/assessing/academic-integrity.html>

### **Health and Wellness at Western**

As part of a successful graduate student experience at Western, we encourage students to make their health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your graduate degree. For example, all students receive free membership at [Western's Campus Recreation Centre](#). Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year; see for example the web pages of the [Faculty of Music](#), and [McIntosh Gallery](#). Information regarding health- and wellness-related services available to students may be found at <http://www.health.uwo.ca/>

Students seeking help regarding mental health concerns may wish to speak to someone they feel comfortable confiding in, such as their faculty supervisor, their program director (graduate chair), or other relevant administrators in their unit. Campus mental health resources may be found at [http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental\\_health/resources.html](http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/resources.html)

To help you learn more about mental health, equity and diversity, Western has developed the following resources (<https://uwo.ca/health/wellness-equity-education/index.html>). Do not hesitate to consult these to find out more about some issues that might affect you, your peers and undergraduate students you interact with as a GTA.

### **Accessibility at Western**

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. For Western's commitment to Accessibility, visit: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca/>