Linguistics Program
Advanced Expository Writing Plan
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I. Goals:

At the completion of degree requirements in Linguistics, a graduate will be able to:

- \ understand the vocabularies of linguistics (phonology, syntax, semantics, anthropological linguistics, psycholinguistics, etc.) and to use those vocabularies appropriately.
- \ recognize and decipher ambiguity, identify degrees of evidence, and extract linguistic arguments from texts.
- \ demonstrate command of the technical features of formal writing, including the conventions of scholarly documentation.
- \ demonstrate research skills in the discipline, including the use of libraries and on-line, Internet, and WWW technologies and resources.
- \ demonstrate skills in expression, including revision and editing techniques.
- \ write for a diverse society by avoiding sexist language and stereotypes, and meet the expectations of different readers and forums.
- \ critically analyze and summarize texts in the discipline.
- \ think analytically, construct arguments and counter-arguments.
- \ work with problem sets, applying the principles and reasoning of linguistic analysis.

II. Objectives:

All Linguistics majors will write frequently in their coursework and will receive constructive criticism of their writing with some opportunity for rewriting earlier drafts.

\ Behavior

Students will engage in a variety of writing experiences that include but are not limited to: analyzing problem sets of linguistic data, writing brief reports, writing extended book reviews, writing a research paper, writing collaborative group reports, writing in-class/exam essays.

\ Conditions

Students will be provided with examples of the kinds of writing expected of them or specific instructions for each kind of writing assignment.

\ Criteria for Writing Experiences

Four of the five core courses of the Linguistics major require writing: LIN 110, ANT 344, ENG 374, and PHL 313. The fifth core course, PSY 310 Psycholinguistics has traditionally included a research paper, however, the Psychology Department is postponing any formal inclusion of this course in its writing program. All core courses traditionally develop student writing skills in the discipline and provide writing to learn activities.

The writing seminars for the major are LIN 110 and PHL 313. Students will be required to select a fifth course at the lower-division level from a list of approved writing course electives

from the co-sponsoring programs/departments of the Linguistics Program (i.e. Anthropology, English, Education, Modern Languages, Philosophy, Psychology, Native American Studies, Communication Studies, Information Science, Computer Science, and Women's Studies). Transfer students may elect an upper-division course from an approved list of writing course electives from the above-named co-sponsoring departments.

III. Linguistics Program Core Writing Courses

\ LIN 110 Introduction to Linguistics

This course is the basic course introducing students to standard tools for analyzing the components of language. Students do problem sets in phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics and write short essays on the nature of language and communication. Evaluation methods may also include the use. of journals, in-class essays and collaborative problem sets, and exam essays. The course also includes one paper which is handed in for revision before final submission and constitutes the lower-division writing seminar for the major.

\ ANT 344 Language and Culture

This course analyzes linguistic diversity and change and cultural emphases in language and the relation to world view. Students are required to prepare an extended book review with revisions and editing after a first reading by the instructor for final submission for a grade.

\ ENG 374 History and Development of the English Language

This course presents the historical backgrounds of the English language, growth of vocabulary, and development of linguistics standards and usage. Students complete several formal writing tasks (these may include formal essays, precis, reviews, term papers, collaborative group reports, and/or essay exams) and several informal writing tasks (reading journals, summaries, capsules, etc.) spaced periodically throughout the semester.

\ PHL 313 Philosophy of Language

This course investigates the nature of natural language and some of its basic concepts: the relation of language to the world in describes, the relationship between language and perception, language and other creatures of the planet, etc. Students write a research paper that analyzes relevant literature and/or defends their own well-developed philosophical position, with revision and editing as an integral part of the process.