Linguistics Department Experimental Requirement – Fall 2011

This course has an experimental requirement. Students may fulfill this requirement by obtaining two experimental credits. "Long" experiments (of about 30 minutes each) are worth one credit, while "short" experiments (of up to fifteen minutes each) are worth half a credit. Students may instead attend video showings (each lasting about an hour) for one credit each. Experiments will be part of ongoing research in the department and will illustrate features of language structure and language use that are relevant to topics covered in the core linguistics curriculum. Similarly, the videos will be on topics covered in the core linguistics curriculum.

Failure to complete this requirement will result in a lowered course grade.

NOTE: Don't leave this requirement to the end of the quarter! The last experiments and the last video showing will be scheduled prior to dead week. Don't count on sufficient experiment slots being available for everyone to fulfill this requirement at that late date. We highly recommend that you fulfill at least one experimental credit by week 5, and both by week 9.

Option 1: Experiments

The experiments will be run in the Linguistics Lab (building 420, room 363). A list of available experiments with available times and instructions on where to go will be posted on the *Sona Systems* web site (see instructions below). Please note:

- You can do each experiment only once, unless specified in the experiment instructions.

- Be sure to arrive on time for the experiments you sign up for. If you are more than 10 minutes late or fail to show up at all, you will be **penalized one credit**.

- If the experimenter is more than 10 minutes late or fails to show up at all, notify the subject pool coordinator immediately at etking@stanford.edu. In the email include your name, the date, time, and place of the appointment, and the experiment name. After the appointment has been verified with the appropriate experimenter, you will receive the credit.

- In order to ensure your privacy, experimenters will only be able to identify you by a confidential ID code. Your data will remain anonymous throughout the process.

Option 2: Videos

Attendance at one video showing will count as fulfillment of one experimental credit (and so will fulfill half of the experimental requirement). Information about video showings will be available on the *Sona Systems* web site. Generally, videos are shown after the sixth or seventh week of the quarter. In order to receive full credit for your attendance at a video showing, you need to:

- Sign-up on the *Sona Systems* website ahead of time.

- Fill out the sign-in sheet upon entering the classroom. If you're late, don't enter the room.

- Stay at the video showing for the entire duration of the video.

Instructions for using *Sona Systems*

Sona Systems is a website that handles the scheduling of the linguistics experiments and video showings. It keeps track of which experiments you have participated in and/or videos you have attended and how many credits you have earned. Your professor will be informed of how many credits you have earned, but not how you have earned them. Below are the basic instructions for using the site (more detailed instructions are available at http://www.sona-systems.com/support/docs/ems_docs.pdf).

Step 1. Log In

After you have officially enrolled in the class and shopping period has ended, you should request an account. Go to

http://stanfordlinguistics.sona-systems.com

and click "Request an account here."

Once you have filled out the form, click "Request Account" and your account will be created. Your login information will be emailed to you.

Note: You may already have a Sona account from participation in Psychology studies. The Linguistics system does not have access to these accounts, so you must create a new account for Linguistics experimental credit.

Step 2. Complete participant questionnaire.

A series of questions will ask for details about your language background and information relevant to language researchers. These questions are required because certain studies may be restricted to, for example, speakers of a particular language.

This information will be entirely confidential and is associated only with your participation ID code and not your name. At the end of the quarter, this information will be deleted from the system.

Step 3. Sign-up for experiments and manage your profile

Once you have finished editing your profile, you can view and sign up for experiments and keep track of past participation and future appointments.

To sign up for a study:

- Once you have logged in, click on *Studies* and you will see a list of studies with brief descriptions. Active studies will have TIMESLOTS AVAILABLE listed next to them.

- After choosing a study, click on that study name and then view the available time slots. Choose a convenient time and click SIGN UP.

- If you need to cancel an appointment, go to *My Schedule/Credits* and click the cancel button next to the relevant study. Note: most studies have a cancellation time limit when you are no longer allowed to cancel (usually 24 hours).

- If you encounter any problems with the system or need additional help, you may contact the Human Subject Coordinator at etking@stanford.edu.