

Today's topics:

- **Review and discussion:**
Basic course concepts

Background preparation:

- *Review of daily objectives so far*

0. Today's objectives

After today's class, you should be able to:

- Identify and explain key concepts from the course with more confidence
- Be able to explain how to use these “daily objectives” along with the discussion slides to organize your understanding of course material

1. Context of this course

- “I would appreciate going over more about how the scientific method, statistics, and reading data graphics relate to linguistics. I guess I am just struggling to connect the subjects with linguistics.”

1. Context of this course

- “It would be helpful to review the difference between the two Yiakoumetti studies.”
 - Where did we see each of the two studies by Yiakoumetti that have come up in the course?
 - What role did each play in our discussion?

2. Prescriptive, descriptive, mental grammar

- “What is the difference between descriptive and prescriptive grammar? (they sound similar so I keep forgetting the difference).”
- “How do they figure out the grammatical structures for different dialects?”

2. Prescriptive, descriptive, mental grammar

- “Demonstrate how judgments from speakers provide data for descriptive/mental grammar.”
- “Are there any clear/strict rules for descriptive grammar? Or is up to each speaker's interpretation of how language is actually used?”

2. Prescriptive, descriptive, mental grammar

- A demonstration (thank you, language consultants!)
 1. *two pencils*
 2. *two books*
 3. *two pieces of paper*
 4. *two chickens*
 5. *two cats*
 6. *two penguins*

3. Social attitudes and language varieties

- “I would like to revisit the objectives from August 22nd looking at social attitudes toward language varieties.”
- “I think it'd be interesting to discuss more the topic of different dialects being more or less ‘appropriate’ depending on the social setting. This is primarily because I personally believe that every dialect is equally appropriate no matter the setting and that if a setting does not welcome a dialect then that means there's something wrong/biased about that setting.”

3. Social attitudes and language varieties

- “Also since spoken and written language/grammar rules vary so much, could they be considered different dialects? Could you also have different types of written dialect as well? Like scientific written/ formal/ texting/ etc.?”

3. Social attitudes and language varieties

- “How do social attitudes towards a language variety impact the way it changes through time?”

4. Interpreting case studies

- “If applicable, what do we have to know about each of the three studies in the class?”
- “Objective: Explain how the three research studies reviewed in Ch 2 relate to each other and to the Oakland “Ebonics” controversy. Specifically, the details of the third research study. We've discussed the Cypriot dialect study a lot and the Swedish study to some extent, but not as much about the last study.”

5. Statistics

- “I am still a little confused on the topic of the null hypothesis.”
- “Descriptive vs. Inferential statistics.”
- “Bimodal distributions, statistical terminology.”
- “Analyzing and understanding statistics in the linguistic world.”
- “Properly interpreting conclusions from scientific studies (like how journalists improperly interpreted the rat study).”

5. Statistics

- Advanced topics that you are not responsible for in this course
 - “I would really like a little more review on inferential statistics and the process of calculating p-values. Also, in descriptive statistics, the standard deviation is still throwing me off. How helpful would looking at formulas be to help improve my understanding?”
 - “I would appreciate a bit more information on statistics.”
 - “Are there ways to ensure that a research paper has used the correct methods of statistical analysis?”

6. Research questions; research articles

- “State a measurable research question that addresses the big-picture research question.”
- “Describe the structure (subparts) of a quantitative research project and identify them in an article.”
- “How to navigate the UNC library website/other academic journals to find an article, and how to ensure credibility”

7. For next time

- Back to the Kaplan book!
 - Read Ch 3 and use the prep questions to prepare for class discussion on Wednesday
 - By Wednesday, you will know if Ch 3 is “your” myth