

English 713: Topics in Contemporary English Linguistics: Academic Practices in Language and Linguistics

Fall 2004
M 4-6:30
7105 H.C.White
english-713@lists.students.wisc.edu

Organizer: Jane Zuengler
Participating/advising
professors: Richard Young,
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Description of the course:

An important part of graduate student training—for PhD students as well as advanced MA students interested in academic scholarship—is socialization into the practices of researchers and theorists in the academic field in which the student will become a member. English 713 seeks to provide such students with guidance in some of the academic practices. Specifically, the course will offer guided experience in a practice integral to conferences in one's field, namely, preparing and delivering a paper to an academic audience. Activity in the course will involve developing plans for, writing, and presenting a paper on one's research or theoretical interests. The event will be a symposium, organized by and consisting of presentations by the participants in English 713. It will be held here on campus toward the end of the semester. Students will ask fellow students and faculty in their area to attend.

English 713 is organized as a seminar in which several of the English Language and Linguistics faculty participate. I (Jane Zuengler, as Organizer) will serve as advisor in the planning of the symposium and the presentations, and I, Prof. Young, and Prof. Wanner will serve as readers, where relevant, of the written paper which the presentation is based on. (Where necessary, other faculty might be asked to read and respond to particular papers.) . As a seminar, English 713 normally limits itself to about 12 students, and is student-centered with input from the faculty participants. While the course is required for PhD students in English Language and Linguistics, we strongly encourage any PhD or advanced MA students from any area related to language or linguistics (regardless of the particular language/s) to participate. In fact, we prefer the stimulation that such interdisciplinarity brings with it.

Requirements for the course:

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| 1/3 of course grade: | involvement in the planning of the symposium |
| 1/3 of course grade: | your presentation in the symposium |
| 1/3 of course grade: | paper (15-25 pp.) which your presentation is based on
(due Monday, Dec. 13) |

Planning of the symposium:

The symposium, to be given later in the semester, will be planned and run by members of the class (with my advisement). Toward that end, students will be asked to take the following responsibilities/roles:

General coordinators (2 people): these people will be the contact persons for any questions or problems that come up, and will be in charge of ensuring that the planning schedule that we come up with proceeds on time. They will be in touch with all of the others in the planning process and will contact people (including the advisor) whenever necessary.

Abstract coordinators (2 people): while everyone will write and submit an abstract, the coordinators will arrange the process of who reads which abstracts, what criteria and means of feedback will be asked of readers, and will distribute revised abstracts to members of the class. Additionally, coordinators will assemble the short summaries which accompany the abstracts and give them to the program committee for inclusion in the symposium brochure.

Program committee (5 people): this committee will be responsible for determining the symposium program organization and schedule, determining (in consultation with everyone else) the date and time, title, room/s, any necessary A/V equipment, and advertising.

Rehearsal coordinators (4 people): responsibilities include scheduling of rehearsals of presentations (1-2 rehearsals), determining whether to provide videotape + feedback sessions and/or written feedback forms

In addition to the specific responsibilities above, all class members will be involved in the symposium process in these additional ways, as:

- **Abstract readers and responders** (as guided by the Abstract Coordinators and the advisor). When/if relevant, Professors Young or Wanner—or other professors—may be asked to read and respond to specific abstracts.
- **Audience members** (during rehearsals; during the symposium)
- **Moderators/session chairs** during the symposium