

Term Project – Quantitative Study

Due: 23 June 2015

For the final project, you will be doing a group quantitative study which will be presented in front of the class. This quantitative study can take one of three forms: 1) You and your group can design and administer your own experiment looking at a linguistic phenomenon; 2) You and your group can administer an experiment using stimuli and items provided by the professor; 3) You and your group can propose and do a corpus analysis of some linguistic phenomenon. The final project is due Tuesday 22 June 2015.

Project:*Design your own experiment*

You and your team can investigate a linguistic phenomenon by looking at how people respond when prompted with some data. The experiment will be either paper or internet based surveys using yes/no, or 7-pt Likert scales. You can pick any linguistic phenomenon such as antonyms, quantifier interpretations, grammatical illusions, TAM in AAVE, etc. Work with the professor to develop at least 25 stimuli and run the experiment on at least 25 people.

Run an experiment

You and your team can investigate a linguistic phenomenon by looking at how people respond when prompted with a specific set of data. The experiment will be either paper or internet based surveys using yes/no, and 7-pt Likert scales. The professor will give you the stimuli and you will run the experiment on at least 25 people.

Corpus Analysis

You and your team can investigate a linguistic phenomenon by looking for the underlying rules that govern communication in a specific set of data. For example, you can use the twitter data from www.emojitracker.com to do a quantitative analysis of how people use different emoji. The goal is that you are trying to figure out the rules behind their use by looking at the specific pattern of use of different emoji and how the patterns of different emoji are similar and different. Some other corpus you can use are Corpus of Contemporary American English, the British National Corpus, Reuters Newswire, Twitter, Facebook, blogs, etc. You can look at any linguistic phenomena such as opening exchanges, pronoun use, curse word use, etc.

Groups:

You will be in group of at least 3 people and should all contribute equally to the final project and final presentation. You will be evaluated as a group, but everyone ought to equally carry their own weight. However, a slacking group member is not an excuse for an incomplete project. The final project is expected to be complete regardless of the involvement of the members involved.

Speech:

Work will be presented in the form of a speech on Tuesday 22 June 2015. The group is responsible for covering all material and each member must speak for at least 30 seconds. All groups have 5:00 minutes (± 30 seconds) to present. Pitch the presentation to a non-linguist while being professional (e.g. not reading, speaking clearly without fillers, making eye contact with the audience). The presentation should include appropriate examples. You should not use the handout or make reference to it while giving your speech. One should be able to close one's eyes and still be able to follow the talk. The presentation should contain at a minimum: 1) Introduction, 2) Research Question, 3) Methodology, 4) Results, 5) Discussion & Conclusion. Follow the link for advice on presenting to non-scientists www.meas.ncsu.edu/tips/improm.htm#nonsci. Follow the link for giving a good scientific talk www.cgd.ucar.edu/cms/agu/scientific_talk.html.

Poster:

The poster is exactly like what you did in elementary school for science fair, just in handout form and will be the only allowed visual during the presentation. Please print 15 copies for all members of the class. The poster must include information on: 1) Research Question, 2) Methodology, 3) Results, and 4) Discussion & Conclusion. You should also include copious examples and charts showing your results. Review the links for presenting scientific information on a poster and template to use: www.colinpurrington.com/tips/poster-design, www.waspacegrant.org/for_students/student_internships/wsgc_internships/posterdesign.html, and www.ncsu.edu/project/posters/index.html. Additional template are available at www.makesigns.com/SciPosters_Templates.aspx.

Group Grades:

You will email the professor after the presentation and assign a grade out of 100 points to your fellow teammates. This averaged grade will account for 25% of your project grade.

Grading:

Speech: 60%

Poster Handout: 15%

Group Grades: 25%