**Research Project:** MULTILINGUAL ACQUISITION

## 1. Research Project **Description**

Ever wonder how children seem to learn languages fast and easy? This project is about that. This research embeds itself within the activities of the Indigenous and Endangered Languages Lab (IELLab). We collect spontaneous speech production of children with multiple languages. The child is video-recorded interacting with an adult (or other children) in the language they usually share. Then we transfer the recording to a computer and transcribe the data. We then code the productions for linguistic properties. We follow the children's production to see how they acquire their grammar(s). We look specifically at their 'errors' and use them to follow their progress in shaping the grammar of their language(s). This year we focus on Spanish-English, Korean-English and Mandarin Chinese-English bilingual children. If a student has interest in another language pair beyond these, that possibility may also be considered.

## 2. Proposed student scholar **Duties**

Student will interact with other members of the IELLab and will transcribe the video-recordings using a special software (ELAN). Student will receive training for the tasks involved. Student will participate in the relevant IELLab meetings and will write a report at the end of the semester about the experience. The student will also be encouraged to identify a linguistic topic in the data transcribed to further work on it. Language pairs recorded up to now: Spanish-English and Korean-English; Mandarin-Chinese will also be collected. Student may choose the language they want to work on.

## 3. Time Commitment and **Credit**

Students can choose to work 3hrs/week, 6hrs/week, 9hrs/week.

Credit can be offered commensurately:

| | |
|---|---|
| 3hrs/week | 1 cr |
| 6hrs/week | 2 cr |
| 9hrs/week | 3 cr |

If you want to obtain credit, you can sign for one of the following courses:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| LING 499 | Undergraduate Research Internship | (graded Pass/No-Pass) [not suitable for major] |
| ENGL 494 | Undergraduate Research Internship | (graded A-F) |