Linguistics (LINGUIS)

LINGUIS 1A American Sign Language I 5 Units
Department: Linguistics
Course level: Undergraduate
Terms course may be offered: Fall and spring
Grading: Letter grade.
Hours and format: 3 hours of Lecture per week for 15 weeks.
Prerequisites: Not open to native signers.
Introduction of the fundamentals of American Sign Language: comprehension skills, grammatical structures, practice in the production aspects of the language, and exposure to Deaf culture.

LINGUIS 1B American Sign Language II 5 Units
Department: Linguistics
Course level: Undergraduate
Terms course may be offered: Fall and spring
Grading: Letter grade.
Hours and format: 3 hours of Lecture per week for 15 weeks.
Prerequisites: Linguistics 1A; not open to native signers.
Continuation of the study of the fundamentals of American Sign Language: comprehension skills, grammatical structures, practice in the production aspects of the language, and exposure to Deaf culture.

LINGUIS R1B Endangered Languages: What We Lose when a Language Dies 4 Units
Department: Linguistics
Course level: Undergraduate
Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer
Grading: Letter grade.
Hours and format: 3 hours of Lecture per week for 15 weeks. 8 hours of Lecture per week for 6 weeks.
In this course, we will investigate such questions as: What causes language endangerment and death, and why does it matter? Can dying languages be revitalized? How are thought, identity, and culture influenced by language, and vice versa? The course is designed to hone students’ reading, writing, and research skills. Satisfies the second half of the Reading and Composition requirement.
Satisfies the second half of the Reading and Composition requirement. Formerly known as R6.

LINGUIS 3 Linguistic Diversity 3 Units
Department: Linguistics
Course level: Undergraduate
Terms course may be offered: Fall and spring
Grading: Letter grade.
(For students with no previous background in linguistics.) Introduction to the scope of human linguistic diversity. Concepts for understanding in what ways human languages can vary and how such variation is constrained. Overview of how linguistic structures are distributed among the world’s major linguistic families, and how these linguistics structures cluster geographically. Theories of how and why languages change, diverge, diversify, and in some cases, become extinct.
Student Learning Outcomes: Gain introductory familiarity with Phonetics and phonology (sounds and sound systems), Morphology (word structure), and Historical linguistics (language change) to gain a foundation for the mastery of linguistic knowledge. Possess a working knowledge of sources of reliable information about languages and linguistics (typological databases), understand and evaluate current linguistic issues in the world at large (language diversity and endangerment, language politics) to acquire Lifetime Learning Skills. Understand Sociolinguistics (language variation within and across speech communities, social relations and language shift), Language and