Linguistics Department Experimental Participation – Spring 2009

This course has an optional experimental component. Students may fulfill this requirement by completing two credits worth of experiments (generally two experiments of one hour each). The experiments will be part of ongoing research in the department and will illustrate features of language structure and language use that are relevant to topics covered in the core linguistics curriculum.

If you have participated in linguistics experiments before, please note that this quarter the Linguistics Dept has merged online systems with the Psychology Dept, so things will be slightly different than they were in the past.

NOTE: Don't leave participation to the end of the quarter! The last experiments will be scheduled prior to dead week. Don't count on sufficient experiment slots being available for everyone to complete two credits at that late date. We highly recommend that you fulfill at least one experimental unit by week 5, and both by week 9.

Experiments

The experiments will be run in the Linguistics Lab (basement of building 420, room 067, behind the Thai Cafe). A list of available experiments with available times and instructions on where to go will be posted on the Sona Systems web site (see instructions below). Please note:

- You can do each experiment only once. You may not sign up for more than 1 slot in any individual experiment.
- Be sure to arrive on time for the experiments you sign up for. If you are more than 10 minutes late or fail to show up at all, you will receive a negative credit (i.e. you'll have to do 3 instead of just 2 experiments)
- If the experimenter is more than 10 minutes late or fails to show up at all, notify the subject pool coordinator immediately (via email is best). In the email include your name, the date, time and place of the appointment, and the experiment name. After the appointment has been verified with the appropriate experimenter, you will receive the credit.

Instructions for using Sona Systems

Sona Systems is a website that handles the scheduling of the linguistics experiments and video showings. It keeps track of which experiments you have participated in and/or videos you have attended and how many credits you have earned. As of Spring 2009, the Linguistics and Psychology departments share a single Sona Systems website. Below are the basic instructions for using the site (more detailed instructions are available at http://www.sona-systems.com/support/docs/ems_v263_docs.pdf).
Step 1. Log In

After you have officially enrolled in the class and the shopping period has ended, an e-mail will be sent to you containing account information and a temporary password. Go to http://stanfordpsychpaid.sona-systems.com/

and enter your SUNet ID and the provided password. It is recommended that you change your password by clicking on My Profile.

Step 2. Complete participant questionnaire.

A series of questions will ask for details about your background and information relevant to language and psychology researchers. Your answers to these questions will remain confidential.

Step 3. Sign-up for experiments and manage your profile

Once you have finished editing your profile, you can view and sign up for experiments and keep track of past participation and future appointments.

To sign up for a study:

- Once you have logged in, click on Studies and you will see a list of studies with brief descriptions. Active studies will have TIMESLOTS AVAILABLE listed next to them.

- After choosing a study, click on that study name and then view the available time slots. Choose a convenient time and click SIGN UP.

- If you need to cancel an appointment, go to My Schedule/Credits and click the cancel button next to the relevant study. Note: most studies have a cancellation time limit when you are no longer allowed to cancel (usually 24 hours).

- If you encounter any problems with the system or need additional help, you may contact the linguistics subject pool coordinator Rebecca Starr at: rlstarr@stanford.edu