Syllabus

LIN 626P–ADVANCED GRAMMAR OF PHILIPPINE LANGUAGES

Third trimester, School year 2005–2006
Instructor: Dr. Hsiu-chuan Liao
Time: Saturday 12:00noon–3:15PM
Place: Y–610
E-mail: liaoh@dlsu.edu.ph or hsiuchuanliao@yahoo.com
Office: LS Mezz.–253 (Linguistics Office)
Office Phone: 526-14-02 (direct line); 524-46-11 Loc. 247
Cell Phone: 0927-959-3688 (No text message/call between 11:30AM to 1:30PM, please!)
Office Hours: Friday 2:00–5:00PM, and by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course surveys the typological characteristics of the grammatical structures of Philippine languages. It aims to provide both a broad characterization of the overall typological similarities found in the morphosyntax of Philippine languages, as well as a taste of the considerable variety distinguishing one language from another. Topics to be covered include: (a) word order, (b) pronominal and agreement systems, (c) the structure of noun phrases (including deixics and pronominal construction markers), (c) the structure of verbal clauses (including dynamic verbs vs. stative verbs, transitivity and ergativity, subjecthood, aspect, etc.). Data will be drawn from a number of Philippine languages representing different subgroups and/or different geographical areas.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Three library research reports (each 20%) 60%
Term paper (due April 3) 40%

Grades for this course will be based on three short library research reports (each accompanies by an oral presentation) (each 20%), and one term paper (40%).

- Three library research reports: (3–10 typed pages; except examples (which should be presented in a three line single-spaced format) and items in tables, everything should be double-spaced)
  (i) **Word order:** Describe the word order of both verbal and nonverbal clauses (including nominal clauses and prepositional predicate constructions) in one Philippine language. Also, describe the word order of noun phrase structures (including possessive constructions, relative clauses, etc.) [See Reid and Liao 2004, Section 2, pp. 436–448].
(ii) **The system of personal pronouns (and the agreement system):**

(a) How many functionally distinct sets of personal pronouns are there (e.g.,
genitive/ergative, nominative/absolutive, locative, oblique, topic, etc.)?
(b) What are the morphological relationships, if any, between these sets?
(c) What kinds of semantic distinctions are made in the system (e.g.,
inclusive vs. exclusive; singular, dual, plural)?
(d) What are the grammatical functions of each set of personal pronouns?
(e) If a language has an agreement system, discuss the relationships between the agreement
forms and personal pronouns, and discuss the pattern of the agreement
system found in the language (e.g., ergative agreement pattern with the
verb agreeing with S/O and with A, or ergative agreement pattern with the
verb agreeing with only A, but not with S or O).

(iii) **The structure of noun phrases:**

(a) Describe the grammatical and/or
semantic functions of prenominal elements [see Reid and Liao 2004,
Section 4.2, pp. 465–477];
(b) Describe the formation of relative clauses—
Specify what kind of NPs (e.g., nominative/absolutive NPs, possessors,
etc.) can be relativized, and what strategy (gap vs. pronoun) is used for
forming relative clauses [see Reid and Liao 2004, Section 4.2, pp. 477–
485].

- **Term paper:** All registrants are expected to write a brief **GRAMMATICAL SKETCH**
of one Philippine language. In addition to the information from the three library
research reports, please also include the following information in the term paper:
(a) Discuss the difference between dynamic and stative verbs; describe the forms
and functions of the affixes reflecting PAN *-um- (and/or PMP *maR-, PMP
*maN-), PAN *-en (or PAN *-in-), PAN *-an, PAN *Si- or PMP *hi-.
[see Liao 2004, Chapter 3 (Section 3.2) for reflexes of the PAN/PMP forms in Philippine
languages];
(b) Discuss transitivity and actancy structures [See Liao 2004,
Chapter 6 or Chapter 7].

- **Format:** All registrants are expected to write a 15–30 page (double-spaced)
paper that conforms to the **Language or Oceanic Linguistics** guidelines.
[Note: Examples should be presented in a (single-spaced) three-line format
(Line 1—language data (use Doulos IPA for phonetic symbols); Line 2—
interlinear gloss; Line 3—free translation).]

- **Deadline:** The research paper is due at 4:00PM, Monday, April 3, 2006.

**REQUIRED READINGS:**
A collection of articles from journals and books [see Reading List].
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LIN626P—Advanced Grammar of Philippine Languages

Week 1: January 7, 2006 (Saturday): Orientation

Week 2: January 14, 2006 (Saturday): Introduction

Week 3: January 21, 2006 (Saturday): Independent Study—10-ICAL

Week 4: January 28, 2006 (Saturday):

TOPIC 1: WORD ORDER

*Reid and Liao 2004 [Section 2, pp. 436-448]

Week 5: February 4, 2006 (Saturday):

TOPIC 2: PERSONAL PRONOUNS AND AGREEMENT—I

Liao 2004 [(i) Chapter 6—section 6.3.2; (ii) Chapter 7—section 7.3.2]
Week 6: February 11, 2006 (Saturday):

TOPIC 2: PERSONAL PRONOUNS AND AGREEMENT—II


Liao 2004 [Chapter 6—sections 6.3.2.1 and 6.3.2.5]

Week 7: February 18, 2006 (Saturday): First library research report due

TOPIC 3: STRUCTURE OF NOUN PHRASES—I

*Reid and Liao 2004 [Section 4, pp. 464–485]


Zorc, R. David. 1977. *The Bisayan dialects of the Philippines: Subgrouping and reconstruction*. Pacific Linguistics C–44. Canberra: Department of Linguistics, Research School of Pacific Studies, The Australian National University. [Chapter 4, Sections 4.3.2–4.3.5, pp. 76-87]


Liao 2004 [Chapter 6, sections 6.3.1.2–6.3.1.3]
**Week 8:** February 25, 2006 (Saturday): Faculty Workshop

**Week 9:** March 4, 2006 (Saturday): Independent Study

**Week 10:** March 11, 2006 (Saturday): Second library research report due

**TOPIC 3: STRUCTURE OF NOUN PHRASES—II**

*Reid and Liao 2004 [Section 4, pp. 464–485]*


Liao 2004 [(i) Chapter 6—section 6.3.1.3; (ii) Chapter 7—section 7.3.1.2]

**Week 11:** March 18, 2006 (Saturday):

**TOPIC 4: STRUCTURE OF VERBAL CLAUSES—I**

*Liao 2004 [Chapter 3, section 3.2]*

*Reid and Liao 2004 [Section 3, pp. 448–464]*


**Week 12:** March 25, 2006 (Saturday): Third library research report due

**TOPIC 4: STRUCTURE OF VERBAL CLAUSES—II**

*Liao 2004 [Chapter 3, section 3.3]*

*Reid and Liao 2004 [Section 3, pp. 448–464]*


**Week 13:** April 1, 2006 (Saturday):

**TOPIC 4: STRUCTURE OF VERBAL CLAUSES—III**

*Reid and Liao 2004 [Section 3, pp. 448–464]*
**Week 14:**

**Topic 4: Structure of Verbal Clauses—IV**

April 3, 2006 (Monday): Term paper due (at 4:00PM)

April 8, 2006 (Saturday): Course card distribution

*Reid and Liao 2004 [Section 3, pp. 448–464]


*Liao 2004 [Chapter 6—sections 6.4 and 6.5]

REFERENCES


*Liao, Hsiu-chuan. 2004. Transitivity and ergativity in Formosan and Philippine languages*. Ph.D. dissertation, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. [Chapters 3, 6, and 7]


MORE REFERENCES


Reid, Lawrence A. 1991. The Alta languages of the Philippines. In VICAL 2: Western Austronesian and contact languages: Papers from the Fifth International Conference on Austronesian Linguistics, ed. by Ray Harlow, 265–297. Auckland:
Linguistics Society of New Zealand.


Seebold, Robert A. 2003. *Central Tagbanwa: A Philippine language on the brink of*


