

Independent Studies BA (2-5 ECTS points)

Data Collection Fieldwork: US versus UK lexical choice to Bernese speakers of English

This IS exposes students to how some sociolinguists go about the process of conducting fieldwork and collecting data suitable for sociolinguistic analysis. Students will gain hands-on experience of linguistic fieldwork and a comprehensive understanding of what constitutes suitable sociolinguistic data, how to collect it appropriately and ethically, and how to manage it and store it in a format that is ready for analysis. This IS aims at collecting data by an orally administered 'questionnaire' on US versus UK lexical choice to Bernese speakers of English based on a set of picture cards. Students are expected to administer oral questionnaires about individuals' lexical choices and at the same time account for their interviewees, i.e. age, gender, education level, exposure, access and study of English. Once students collect questionnaires, they will need to create a lucid and easy-to-read excel sheet with ALL of the data results about their interviewees' answers. Students will be expected to enter their results into our departmental Corpus computer. Students wishing to complete this IS must be supervised by either Professor David Britain or Dr. Kellie Goncalves.

50 interviews = 2 ECTS points

75 interviews = 3 ECTS points

100 interviews = 4 ECTS points

125 interviews = 5 ECTS points