

LING 199— Ichishkiin/Sahaptin Language (5 credits) Winter Term 2014 CRN 28109
TRF, 12:00-12:50 pm, W, 1:00-1:50 122 Pacific

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Office Hours: Thursdays 2:00 – 4:00 and by appointment
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Office hours: by appointment

Course Description:

The focus of this course is on learning Yakima Sahaptin, a Native American language of the Columbia River area of Oregon and Washington, and learning about the culture and history of the Sahaptin peoples. Dialects of Sahaptin languages are currently spoken on the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The dialects are mutually intelligible, with slight differences in phonology, spelling systems and lexical items. Sahaptin cultures are closely related; some of the dialect differences will be addressed in class. This makes the course pertinent to all students wanting to better understand the languages, history and cultures of the First People of the eastern, upper and lower Columbia River area. Students will learn the sound system of the language, and vocabulary and grammar for basic conversations. Emphasis is placed on daily speaking, writing, reading and listening of Sahaptin and learning about the cultures of the people who spoke and still speak the language.

It is a privilege to be able to teach and learn this Native American language at the University of Oregon. Many people have been involved in the decision to teach it and the curriculum planning process, including UO instructors as well as members of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

What you will learn: You have already learned a lot of language! Language learning is cumulative, and we'll incorporate materials from fall throughout this term as well. Here are some things you can expect to know and be able to do by the end of Winter term:

Words and phrases:

- Recognize (understand and read) enough Sahaptin to understand a short written paragraph, or several spoken sentences. (In Sahaptin, a single word can be an entire English sentence!)

Alphabet and sound system:

- Recognize and be able to write letters of the alphabet, and know what sounds they represent.
- **Recognize and produce the consonant sounds of Sahaptin.**
- Begin to recognize the difference between long and short vowels and perhaps begin to produce the difference.
- **Identify word-level stress.**

Listening and Understanding:

- Understand words and familiar phrases on the topics we've studied **in the first 2 terms**: daily activities, introductions, family, **language at home**, culture, Columbia River Basin fish and wildlife and **root digging**. **We'll also be continuing with legends this term.**
- Understand basic instructions and requests regarding classroom activities.
- Understand basic sentences and short conversations on the topics we study.

Speaking:

- Identify things in your environment.
- Ask and respond to familiar questions.
- Introduce yourself.
- Greet others.
- Use learned phrases in appropriate settings.

Reading and Writing:

- Read and write familiar words and phrases.
- Write words **and sentences** spoken by a fluent speaker.
- **Use accent marks correctly.**

Grammar:

- Recognize suffixes and prefixes that are used to indicate tense and person.
- **Use clitics for 1st and 2nd person, including inclusive and exclusive we.**
- **Begin to use case marking on nouns.**
- Know linguistic terminology as it relates to the Sahaptin language.
- Know some of the differences in sound and grammar between Sahaptin and English.

Culture:

- Know some of the dialect differences within Sahaptin.
- Know the importance of the Columbia River and its natural and cultural resources.
- Recognize some of the cultural values of Plateau people.

Textbook and Sound Files: You will need to have one or more blue exam books for your weekly journal. Two texts will be required for this course (see below). Additional reading materials will be posted on Blackboard and/or Anvill. Classroom handouts will contain important information that you will need throughout the term. You should keep all handouts and materials well-organized in a three-ring binder and you should bring these resources to class with you every day. These will also be posted on Blackboard and/or Anvill. Some out-of-class exercises will be listening exercises. The sound files for these exercises will be posted Blackboard and/or Anvill.

Required Texts:

- 1) *Ichishkiin S nwit Yakama/Yakima Sahaptin Dictionary*, Beavert & Hargus, 2009.
- 2) *Wántwint Inmí Tiináwit: A Reflection of What I Have Learned*, Beavert, 2012.

This is available through the library – search the first couple of words and it should pop up; click 'view online' and the pdf should open. Download and print so you can bring it to class as needed.

Grading Expectations: Students are expected to attend all classes and complete all in-class exercises, homework assignments, quizzes, midterms, a final project, and the final exam.

- 20% Attendance and in-class exercises and participation
- 20% Homework and weekly journal entries
- 15% Quizzes
- 20% Midterm exams (there will be two, each worth 10%)
- 15% Final Project
- 10% Final exam

Grades will be assigned as follows:

100+	A+	87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+
93-100	A	83-86	B	73-76	C	63-66	D
90-92	A-	80-82	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	D-
						Below 60	F

Class Participation: Because this is a language course, you are expected to take responsibility for your own learning. Come to class prepared to engage in activities to boost your language learning. Beyond simply being present in class, you will need to actively participate in class activities. Students will be learning together. Please be supportive of each other. *Ichishkiinsim* (Ichishkiin-only) hours where Ichishkiin learners can gather to practice and build speaking skills through conversation and/or activities will be scheduled weekly. Participating in two of these meetings over the course of the term will be required and attendance for the others optional. In certain circumstances, these may count towards extra credit.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory due to the amount of in-class work we will do, and the fact that language learning is a cumulative process. If at all possible, you must contact Regan Anderson before you miss a class. **Each absence (beyond 2 free) will lower your final grade by 3 percentage points** (so, if you have an A in the class but have missed 3 classes, you will have a B; 4 classes would take you to a C and so on). Students who miss more than 5 classes will not pass the class.

Office Visit: Twice during the term, office visits with Virginia Beavert will be required. We will have a sign up sheet in class. Instructors' offices are at the Northwest Indian Language Institute, 1629 Moss Street, on the south east edge of campus.

Exams and Quizzes: You will have weekly quizzes (usually on Friday). If you are absent, you will not be able to make up the quiz. There will be two midterms, in weeks four and seven. Make-up exams will only be available if you have an excused medical excuse with a doctor's note or if there are extreme extenuating circumstances.

Homework: Because we are only meeting 4 days a week for a five credit course, expect daily homework assignments, with one longer graded online and/or reading assignment (called lab hw in the syllabus, posted by 5 pm Friday, due before or at the beginning of class on Tuesday). Homework is due at the beginning of class, or needs to be completed and submitted before class. Some assignments will be handed in, other assignments will only be checked to see that you completed them. Blackboard/Anvill assignments must also be completed before class. Some assignments will be handed in,

other assignments will only be checked to see that you completed them. Always be prepared to hand in homework. Homework will be evaluated for correctness, carefulness, thoroughness and thoughtfulness. We will not accept any late homework, as we will usually be discussing it immediately in class.

Final Project: Your final project will be a game, book, or activity that incorporates the language you have learned and that can be used by other Sahaptin learners. You will get a rubric and more information about this project in Week 5.

A note about course materials: Course materials are developed for educational use only. Please check with the instructor before sharing them with people outside of the class. No course materials, including the recordings, may be posted or openly distributed online.

**This schedule will be updated and reposted on Blackboard -
Check there for up-to-date assignment information!**

		Due for class	Topics
		(This is only a reminder of large upcoming assignments - it is not comprehensive. You will get daily homework in class and you are responsible for checking Blackboard for updates and changes.)	
Week One	T Jan 7		Language used at home
	W Jan 8		
	R Jan 9		
	F Jan 10	quiz	
Week Two	T Jan 14	lab hw 1 due	Sounds: glottalized consonants ts / ts' ;
	W Jan 15		
	R Jan 16		
	F Jan 17	quiz project revisions due	
Week Three	T Jan 21	lab hw 2 due	Columbia River history, culture, resources and wildlife
	W Jan 22		
	R Jan 23		
	F Jan 24	quiz	
Week Four	T Jan 28	lab hw 3 due	Seasons and weather Sounds: , t , t ' ; front x and back <u>x</u> , h; labialized sounds (kw, kw', <u>k</u> w, <u>k</u> w', xw, <u>x</u> w); k and <u>k</u>
	W Jan 29		
	R Jan 30		
	F Jan 31	Midterm 1	
<p>Midterms Friday, Jan. 31 and Friday, Feb. 21 Final project presentations Week 10 (March 11-14), projects due by 5 pm Friday, March 14 Final Exam 10:15 Wednesday, Mar. 19</p>			