

Language & Identity in the New South

VIP VXA: Vertically Integrated Project

Fall 2026

Team meetings (fully in-person)

Please check Canvas for time/location.

Instructor

Dr. Lelia Glass -- please call me Lelia, because we are on a team together

lelia.glass@modlangs.gatech.edu | “she”, “Lelia”

Please check Canvas for office location/hours.

Objectives

Students will...

- Get hands-on experience in all stages of the research process: gathering and analyzing linguistic data, reading/synthesizing literature, identifying research questions, and reporting results.
- Develop skills in human subjects research, data management, phonetic analysis, statistics, academic literacy, presentation skills, teamwork, and project management.
- Enhance academic/career portfolio by developing a self-directed (group) project.
- Contribute to and benefit from a vibrant socio-intellectual community.

Grading criteria

As is customary, grades in the 90s are awarded “A,” those in the 80s are awarded “B,” and so on.

Canvas is set up to automatically deduct 10% per day for late work!

40% -- “Choose your own adventure”: get 40 points from *your choice* of the following.... (submit screenshots to Canvas; customize this experience to suit your own goals/interests!)

- Recruit/record an interview, make sure the participant does the Qualtrics study, label everything correctly, record it on the [Google Sheet](#), upload it to the Box (upload screenshots): **10 points**
 - ***If it is your first time doing an interview, you should do it in a pair or with me***
- Transcribe and DARLA an interview, ensuring that **both** the TextGrid and the DARLA csv are in the Box (upload screenshots): **10 points**
 - ***If it is your first time doing a transcription, please indicate that so I can check it carefully – want to make sure that everyone actually knows how to do this and is creating high-quality and usable data***
- Transcribe and DARLA 4 reading passages, ensuring that **both** the TextGrid and the DARLA csv are in the Box (upload screenshots): **10 points**

15% – Present a reading to the group (upload the presentation to Canvas). [7-8 minutes max]

- New students present **once**, returning students present **twice**.
- You will choose an article from our reading list. Please schedule your presentation at least 2 weeks in advance. Using slides or a handout, concisely discuss (8 minutes):
 - What is the main claim of the article? [Please provide specific examples of any linguistic phenomenon discussed.]
 - What data/arguments are used to support it?
 - What did you find most interesting or confusing [it's okay to be confused]?
 - What is the significance of the article for our VIP? What questions does it raise that we might be able to answer; what issues does it raise that we ought to consider?
 - How does the article fit into the wider literature [who cites this and why?] and/or the authors' research program [look them up]?
 - It is a good idea to use important visuals (graphs) from the paper (reproduced large enough that we can read them!), especially if they're captioned with a concise, plain-English, large-font takeaway.
 - Please see [here](#) for a checklist to improve your slide deck!

15%-- Final (group) project/presentation, uploaded to Canvas for grading

- Clear, original, knowledge-advancing **group** presentation (**10 minutes per group**) -- drawing on the readings suggested with your topic, report some new exploration of our data and explain why it is interesting!

15% -- VIP "notebook", as a weekly Canvas Discussion

- Every week, you should learn/do something for this VIP. Please write at least 1 detailed sentence describing what you learned/did this week.
- *If you miss our meeting without an Institute-approved absence, your maximum grade for the weekly notebook will be 50%.*
- *If we ran R code, please upload a screenshot of a new/original/customized graph that you adapted!*
- Your "notebook" should also respond to the week's discussion topic (~1 detailed sentence).
- Canvas automatically deducts 10% per day late.

10% – Shared knowledge quiz

- Checks that you know how to transcribe and process data; and that you've read/understood the papers previously produced by this VIP team.
- To check that you know how to transcribe and process data correctly.

5% -- [CITI training](#)

- Upload proof that you are certified to carry out human subjects research

Policies and Links

• **Attendance**

- Learning takes place in the classroom. Therefore, you should attend our meetings unless you have a documented Institute-approved absence. Attendance counts for part of your grade for your VIP notebook each week (absence results in 50% off). Thank you!

• **Late work**

- Canvas is set to automatically deduct 10% per day on late work.
- **AI policy**
 - You may not present an LLM's work as your own. You must cite and disclose usage of any LLM tool.
 - Many of my assignments are designed to be LLM-resistant.
 - If you use an LLM to simulate the appearance of thinking or knowledge inside your own brain, you have cheated academically, and you have also cheated yourself out of an opportunity to learn.
- [Georgia Tech Honor Code](#)
 - Be honest about your work and your data. Never lie. Give credit to people for their ideas. Don't present anyone else's work as your own. Don't help anyone else violate the Honor Code. Don't cheat yourself out of learning by copying someone else.
 - You must complete all individual work without assistance from anyone else.
 - You must not present an LLM's output as your original work.
- [Georgia Tech's student-faculty expectations](#)
 - We all have a right to be treated with respect and professionalism, and a responsibility to treat others the way we want to be treated.
- [Resources for student success](#)
 - Don't struggle alone with school; there are resources to help you!
- [Office of Disability Services](#)
 - Students with disabilities are very welcome in this class. Please contact ODS to make the class more accessible for you.
- [Growth Mindset Wikipedia page](#)
 - Your mind is a muscle that grows with exercise. Don't say "I can't do that," say "I can't do that *yet*."

Week-by-week schedule:

Please see Canvas or check back for updates; as of the time of writing (April 2026), the week-by-week schedule has not yet been set.