

# LING 501000--Syllabus

## Topics in Historical Linguistics: Distant Genetic Relationships

### 歷史語言學專題:遠距語言親屬關係

First Semester, School Year 96 (Fall 2007)

Instructor: Dr. Hsiu-chuan Liao (廖秀娟)

Time: Tuesday 9:00AM–12:00noon

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Office Hours: Wednesday 2:00-3:00PM, and by appointment.

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course assumes a basic knowledge of the Comparative Method of historical linguistics. Its goal is to provide a detailed discussion of the distant genetic relationships between the Austronesian language family and a number of other languages and/or language families (e.g. Austroasiatic, Tai-Kadai / Kra-Dai, Sino-Tibetan, Proto-Ongan, and Japanese).

We will consider this issue not only from a linguistic perspective, but also from perspectives of archaeologists and anthropologists.

#### **TEACHING METHODS:**

This course explores the issue of distant genetic relationships through a series of readings, lectures, and discussions.

#### **GRADING POLICY:**

The course grade is based entirely on how well the following requirements are fulfilled; **NO** second chance or alternative work can be given.

- (a) participation (10%)
- (b) two written article summaries, together with oral presentations (20% each)

(c) a term paper (accompanied by an oral presentation) [The term paper is basically a literature review of one of the hypotheses on distant genetic relationships.] (50%)

- Late homework will be accepted ONLY in DOCUMENTED cases of illness or crisis.
- Students are responsible for material and information covered in classes that they miss.

### **REQUIRED READING:**

A collection of articles from journals and books.

### **REFERENCES**

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- Benedict, Paul K. 1991. *Austriac: An 'extinct' proto-language*. *Austroasiatic languages: Essays in honor of H. L. Shorto*, ed. by Jeremy H. C. S. Davidson, 7-11. London: School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.
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- \*Blevins, Juliette. 2007. A long lost sister of Proto-Austronesian? Proto-Ongan, Mother of Jarawa and Onge of the Andaman Island. *Oceanic Linguistics* 46(1):154-198.
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- Li, Fang-kuei. 1977. *A handbook of comparative Tai*. Oceanic Linguistics Special Publication No. 15. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press.
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- \*Pietrusewsky, Michael. 1994. Pacific-Asian relationships: A physical anthropological perspective. *Oceanic Linguistics* 33(2):407-429.
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- \*Vovin, Alexander. 1994. Is Japanese related to Austronesian? *Oceanic Linguistics* 33(2):369-390.
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- \*Wright, Robert. 1991. Quest for the Mother Tongue. *The Atlantic Monthly*, April 1991: 39-68.

#### TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic/Activity</u>
Week 1	09/11/2007	Orientation
Week 2	09/18/2007	Wright (1991); Reid (1996)
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>09/25/2007</b>	<b>Holiday: Mid-Autumn Festival</b>
Week 4	10/02/2007	Austronesian and Austro-Asiatic (Reid 1994)
Week 5	10/09/2007	Austronesian and Austro-Asiatic (Reid 1999)
Week 6	10/16/2007	Archaeology (Tsang 1995, 2005)
Week 7	10/23/2007	Archaeology (Bellwood 1994)
Week 8	10/30/2007	Physical Anthropology (Pietrusewsky 1994)
Week 9	11/06/2007	Austronesian and Tai-Kadai (Thurgood 1994)
Week 10	11/13/2007	Austronesian and Kra-Dai (Ostapirat 2005)
Week 11	11/20/2007	Austronesian and Tai-Kadai (Sagart 2004, 2005b)
Week 12	11/27/2007	Sino-Tibetan-Austronesian (Sagart 1994)
Week 13	12/04/2007	Sino-Tibetan-Austronesian (Sagart 2005a)
Week 14	12/11/2007	Austronesian and Japanese (Vovin 1994)
Week 15	12/18/2007	Proto-Austronesian and Proto-Ongan (Blevins 2007)
<b>Week 16</b>	<b>12/25/2007</b>	<b>Term Paper Presentation</b>
<b>Week 17</b>	<b>01/01/2008</b>	<b>Holiday: Founding Day of the Republic of China</b>
<b>Week 18</b>	<b>01/08/2008</b>	<b>Term paper due</b>