

Fall 2021

## Final Project: “*Language as a Tool for Social Justice, Racial Equity, and Cultural Learning*” Grant Proposal

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## Inclusion Initiative - Fall 2021

### Signature Assignment Information

Faculty Name: David Malinowski  
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Semester taught: Fall 2021  
Course Title: Linguistics 129: Culture, Language, and Ethnicity in the U.S.  
Assignment Title: Final Project: "*Language as a Tool for Social Justice, Racial Equity, and Cultural Learning*" Grant Proposal  
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### ***Language as a Tool for Social Justice, Racial Equity, and Cultural Learning***

#### Grant Proposal Instructions

#### LING 129 Fall 2021 Final Project

You can apply for up to \$10,000 in grant funds to support a project addressing a social justice, racial equity, and/or cultural learning goal that is based upon linguistic/language awareness, knowledge, and action.

First, please think about communities and institutions that you're familiar with. You can propose a topic addressing an issue that you perceive in one of these:

- Your hometown and/or San José or another city/town close by
- A public institution/organization in one of these places
- A company or work environment you're familiar with
- A general or particular organization or administrative area of SJSU
- Another school you're very familiar with
- A social media app, game, or other online community that you and people you know are significantly involved with
- Another community/organization you are very familiar with

Then, in order to decide on a proposal topic, please review this semester's readings, discussion posts, and our class discussions on Canvas.

When you have decided upon a topic, please develop a proposal of 900-1500 words total.

Alternatively, you can create a video/multimedia presentation of 4-6 minutes (spoken narration and visuals).

In either case, your proposal should include the following parts:

1. **Summary and goals:** Briefly, what do you propose to accomplish?
2. **Introduction and rationale:** What real-world issue do you hope to address with your plan? Why is it important to you, and to the larger community?
3. **Historical and conceptual background:** What key ideas, arguments, and terms from our study in LING 129 inform your approach? What historical, cultural, and/or social issues underlie the issue(s) you're trying to address? What understanding of language is necessary to understand the issue(s)?
4. **Action plan:** What practical steps will need to be followed in order to execute your plan? Who will the personnel/team be? How many people would need to be involved, and in what capacity? What will your likely budgetary and other material needs be? If you are requesting funds up to \$10,000, how will you allocate these?
5. **Anticipated challenges:** What are the challenges—political, social, logistical, material, etc.—that you anticipate? What actions or resources will be needed to address them?
6. **Evaluation:** How will you know, measure, or evaluate when and how your plan has succeeded?

Please post a **draft** of your proposal to the appropriate Canvas discussion by **11:59pm, Thursday, December 9**. You can give feedback on others' proposals, receive feedback on your own proposal, and revise it any number of times before the **final application deadline of 11:59pm Sunday, December 12, 2021**.

To receive full credit for your proposal, please read and comment on at least two other people's draft proposals, addressing what you perceive to be the strengths and possible areas for improvement.

Full evaluation/scoring criteria for project proposals appear on the following page.

# RUBRIC Final Project Discussion Rubric



You've already rated students with this rubric. Any major changes could affect their assessment results.

Criteria	Ratings			Pts
<p>Basic proposal criteria</p> <p>Proposal includes all required elements (Summary and goals, Introduction and rationale, Historical and conceptual background, Action plan, Anticipated challenges, and Evaluation. Proposal is 900-1500 words (if written) or 4-6 minutes of spoken narration and visuals (if multimedia recording)</p>	<p><b>5 pts</b> <b>Full Marks</b></p> <p>Proposal meets or exceeds all criteria (required elements and length)</p>	<p><b>0 pts</b> <b>No Score</b></p> <p>Proposal does not include required elements or meet length requirements</p>		5 pts
<p>Grounding in sociolinguistic principles</p> <p>Proposal demonstrates engagement with key sociolinguistic ideas, arguments, and terms from our study in LING 129. Meaningful integration of historical, cultural, and/or social issues underlying the issue(s) addressed by proposal, with a deep engagement with language and linguistics.</p>	<p><b>10 pts</b> <b>Full Marks</b></p> <p>Deep, sustained engagement with sociolinguistic ideas, arguments, and terms from our study in LING 129</p>	<p><b>5 pts</b> <b>Mid Range</b></p> <p>Moderate engagement with sociolinguistic ideas, arguments, and terms from our study in LING 129</p>	<p><b>0 pts</b> <b>No Score</b></p> <p>Shallow or no meaningful engagement with sociolinguistic ideas, arguments, and terms from our study in LING 129</p>	10 pts
<p>Impact and feasibility</p> <p>Proposal demonstrates a clear and meaningful potential for achieving the grant's purpose of social justice, racial equity, and/or cultural learning based upon linguistic/language awareness, knowledge, and action. Proposal demonstrates clear potential to be actionable if funded and carried out as proposed.</p>	<p><b>5 pts</b> <b>Full Marks</b></p> <p>Proposal demonstrates a clear and meaningful potential for achieving desired impact. Proposal demonstrates clear potential to be actionable if funded and carried out as proposed.</p>		<p><b>0 pts</b> <b>No Score</b></p> <p>Proposal lacks demonstration of potential for achieving desired impact. Proposal demonstrates little attention to actionability.</p>	5 pts
<p>Peer feedback</p> <p>You have read and commented on at least two other people's draft proposals, addressing what you perceive to be their strengths and possible areas for improvement. Comments do not have a minimum or maximum word count, but should be substantive and detailed enough for your classmates to act upon.</p>	<p><b>5 pts</b> <b>Full Marks</b></p> <p>Substantive, detailed, and actionable comments on at least two classmates' project proposals</p>		<p><b>0 pts</b> <b>No Score</b></p> <p>No peer feedback given to classmates</p>	5 pts
<p>Written/Spoken Form</p> <p>Proposal clearly demonstrates attentiveness to organization and development of ideas, attention to grammatical, formatting and spelling conventions, visual presentation, and other formal elements</p>	<p><b>5 pts</b> <b>Full Marks</b></p> <p>Clear demonstration of attentiveness to presentation and form</p>	<p><b>3 pts</b> <b>Mid Score</b></p> <p>Some attentiveness to presentation and form</p>	<p><b>0 pts</b> <b>No Score</b></p> <p>Lacks attentiveness to presentation and form</p>	5 pts
Total Points: 30				