COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides an overview of the field of linguistic typology and its methodologies, and how these apply to the study of Creoles. It provides students with a background to analyze relations between Creoles, substrata, lexifiers, and other languages from a formal typological perspective (Whaley 1997: 7): “The classification of languages or components of languages based on shared formal characteristics.” Class discussion centers on the typological affiliation of Creoles according to descriptions from previous studies and new data incorporated into class discussions.

OBJETIVES: At the end of the course, students should be able to:
1. Master the tools of formal typological analyses and comparative studies of Creole languages.
2. Identify typological features in one English-lexifier Creole based on a dataset.
3. Describe the main characteristics of the syntactic, morphological, phonemic systems, and lexical semantic categories of English-lexifier Creoles as well as other Creoles.
4. Compare the main characteristics shared by various Creoles, and, thereby, identify the presence/absence of typological universals of Creole grammars.

READINGS/HOMEWORK: The first part of the course introduces language typology and tools of typological analysis. Beginning on March 20, you are responsible for bringing to class a typed comment (one page long) every two meetings (as scheduled, except for the final comment). Students will provide copies to everyone and read their comments at the beginning of the class period. These will include an assessment of the topic under discussion based on the readings assigned. It can include a short evaluation of the Creole selected for the final paper. Copies of readings will be sent by email. Comments constitute only a portion of the class participation grade, which also includes active participation in class discussions, and timely completion of all class work and readings. Absences affect significantly your class participation grade, so bring excuses for any absences. Readings are subject to change if classes are cancelled, etc. No late homework will be accepted.

TERM PAPER: A final paper applying a typological analysis to one English-lexifier Creole must be turned-in by June 14. It should be no longer than 14 pages (including a two page bibliography) or shorter than 12 pages. You should select one dataset for analysis by March 27. An abstract (approximately 400 words with, at least, five references) is due on May 2nd.

EVALUATION: (grading system A, B, C, D, and F)
- Class Participation 30%
- Typed-comments (4 x 5%) 20%
- Final Typed-comment 10%
- Final Research Paper 40%
Regarding students with special needs, the University of Puerto Rico’s policies (Ley 51) apply as follows: “Los estudiantes que reciban servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional deben comunicarse con el (la) profesor(a) al inicio del semestre para planificar el acomodo razonable y equipo asistivo necesario conforme a las recomendaciones de la Oficina de Asuntos para las Personas con Impedimento (OAPI) del Decanato de Estudiantes. También aquellos estudiantes con necesidades especiales que requieren algún tipo de asistencia o acomodo deben comunicarse con el (la) profesor(a).”

**SCHEDULE AND READINGS** (subject to change):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READINGS/HOMEWORK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Introduction to Language Typology and Structure</td>
<td>Hand-out: exercises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>Language Typology and Methodology</td>
<td>Croft (2003), Velupillai (2017)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>Morphological Typology and Creoles</td>
<td>DeGraff (2005), McWhorter (2000), Moreno Cabrera (2016) / typed comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>Lexical Semantics and Typology and Creoles</td>
<td>Bybee et al. (1994), Binnick (1976), Comrie (1985)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Creole Syntax and Typology</td>
<td>Dryer (2013), Mufwene &amp; Dijkhoff (1989) / Abstract final paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Creole Syntax and Typology</td>
<td>Holm (2000), Baptista and Guéron (2007) / typed comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>Evaluation Typological Relations Creoles and other Natural Languages</td>
<td>Mufwene (1991), Bickerton (1975), Alleyne (1980) / Final typed comment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Final Paper Due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Readings required and suggested (selected sections from books):


