

# LING290 A01 – Encoding Language in Writing

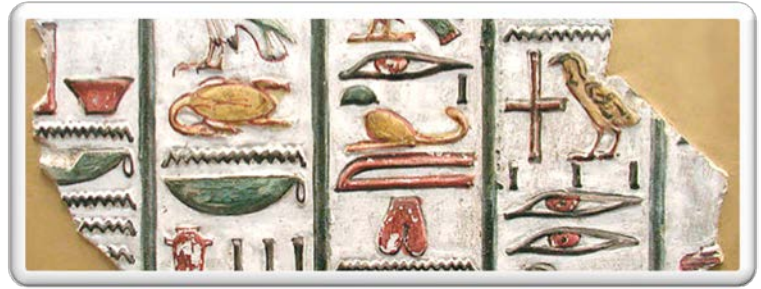
Fall 2021

CRN 12023

Instructor: Dr. Sandra Kirkham

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays:  
9:30- 10:20 am

Prerequisites: None



In this course, we explore the categories and unique characteristics of a sampling of ancient and modern writing systems, focusing on primarily visual systems and on the relationship of writing to language. We will consider diverse representational systems, which may include non-visual systems like Braille, textile-based systems and graffiti, in order to gain an understanding of the nature of writing. We will also briefly consider the origins of writing and its social context.

Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to...

- Examine your own beliefs and attitudes about writing systems and spelling conventions through the completion of course materials.
- Increase awareness of the diversity and similarities of language's writing systems through a survey of the various forms of writing systems with some opportunity to practice some scripts
- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts of writing systems, the typology of writing systems, and their evolution.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of writing and the relationship between symbols and language.
- Develop analytic skills critical to the study of linguistics and of other disciplines.
- Develop teamwork, problem solving, critical thinking, and creative skills critical to the study of linguistics and other disciplines as well as to your career through completing course assessments.

This course involves participation in synchronous in-person lectures and activities in addition to the completion of readings and exercises to meet these objectives. Course resources and most assessments are online although students may choose to use a paper text. Assessments include two quizzes, a final exam, five e-Homework assignments, and participation activities.