Symbolic Systems 100:
Experimental Requirement – Spring 2008

This course has an experimental requirement (5% of the total grade) by agreement with the Linguistics Department, which provides administrative and TA support for Sym Sys 100. Students may fulfill this requirement by either participating in two experiments of one hour each, by attending two video showings of one hour each or by participating in one experiment and one video showing. The experiment will be part of ongoing research in the Linguistics Department and will illustrate features of language structure and language use that are relevant to topics covered in the core linguistics curriculum. Similarly, the videos will be on topics covered in the core linguistics curriculum.

**Failure to complete this requirement will
result in a lowered course grade.**

NOTE: Don't leave this requirement to the end of the quarter! The last experiments and the last video showing will be scheduled prior to dead week. Don't count on sufficient experiment slots being available for everyone to fulfill this requirement at that late date. We highly recommend that you fulfill at least one experimental unit by week 5, and both by week 9.

Option 1: Experiments

The experiments will be run in the Linguistics Lab (basement of building 420, room 067, behind the Thai Cafe). A list of available experiments with available times and instructions on where to go will be posted on the *Sona Systems* web site (see instructions below). Please note:

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- You can do each experiment only once. You may not sign up for more than 1 slot in any individual experiment.

- Be sure to arrive on time for the experiments you sign up for. If you are more than 10 minutes late or fail to show up at all, you will receive **a negative credit** (i.e. you'll have to do 3 instead of just 2 experiments)

- If the experimenter is more than 10 minutes late or fails to show up at all, notify the subject pool coordinator immediately (via email is best). In the email include your name, the date, time and place of the appointment, and the experiment name. After the

appointment has been verified with the appropriate experimenter, you will receive the credit.

- You will be supplied with a confidential ID code by which experimenters will identify you in order to ensure your privacy. Your data will remain anonymous throughout the process.

Option 2: Videos

Attendance at one video showing will count as fulfillment of one of the experimental requirements. Information about the video showings will be available on the *Sona Systems* web site. Generally, videos are shown after the sixth or seventh week of the quarter. In order to receive full credit for your attendance at a video showing, you need to:

- Sign-up on the *Sona Systems* website ahead of time.

- Fill out the sign-in sheet upon entering the classroom. If you're late, don't enter the room.

- Stay at the video showing for the entire duration of the video.

Instructions for using *Sona Systems*

Sona Systems is a website that handles the scheduling of the linguistics experiments and video showings. It keeps track of which experiments you have participated in and/or videos you have attended and how many credits you have earned. Below are the basic instructions for using the site (more detailed instructions are available at http://www.sona-systems.com/support/docs/ems_v263_docs.pdf).

Step 1. Log In

After you have officially enrolled in the class, an e-mail will be sent to you containing account information and a temporary password. Go to

http://stanfordlinguistics.sona-systems.com/

and enter your SUNet ID and the provided password. It is recommended that you change your password by clicking on *My Profile*.

Step 2. Complete participant questionnaire. [optional]

A series of questions will ask for details about your language background and information relevant to language researchers. Answering these questions is not required and will not affect what experiments you can participate in or any other aspect of your participation.

This information will be entirely confidential and is associated only with your participation ID code and not your name. At the end of the quarter, this information will be deleted from the system.

Step 3. Sign-up for experiments and manage your profile

Once you have finished editing your profile, you can view and sign up for experiments and keep track of past participation and future appointments.

To sign up for a study:

- Once you have logged in, click on *Studies* and you will see a list of studies with brief descriptions. Active studies will have TIMESLOTS AVAILABLE listed next to them.

- After choosing a study, click on that study name and then view the available time slots. Choose a convenient time and click SIGN UP.

- If you need to cancel an appointment, go to *My Schedule/Credits* and click the cancel button next to the relevant study. Note: most studies have a cancellation time limit when you are no longer allowed to cancel (usually 24 hours).

- If you encounter any problems with the system or need additional help, you may contact the subject pool coordinator Rebecca Starr at: rlstarr@stanford.edu