Today:

- Getting to know you / Introduction (instructors and participants)
- What is a dictionary?
- Types of dictionaries
- What goes in a dictionary?
Course outline

• Monday: Introduction, general principles
• Tuesday: Dictionary entries [cont’d]
• Wednesday: Gathering dictionary data
• Thursday: Dictionary software

• NB: we are great believers in the fundamental interconnectedness of all things… we will be revisiting many topics several times throughout the week.

• NB: let us know if there’s anything you particularly want us to cover!
WHAT IS A DICTIONARY?
What is a dictionary?

• Collection of **words** and their **meanings**.
• **Snapshot** of the language through its words.

• But, a dictionary can be much more than that:

  **Klamath**

  **déekai** (v.)
  *English*: let’s three go
  *See also*: -kai ‘go, come, walk, run’ (plural)
  *Authors’ pronunciation*: dijikai

  *Examples:*
  "K’adih aghéí na’ndéé kooghajih déekai. : Now we’ll go to the camp of the others." (Hoijer text 10)

  **Lakota**
Dictionaries store information about culture

- e.g. cultural knowledge in definitions
- how a language/people categorize the world around them
Culture (cont)

- Lakota dictionary

Script: miičiŋka  Sister-in-law, comb my hair
Sic'en, miičiŋka  Brother-in-law, comb my hair
He tānā, ti hawo?  Whose is it, does he live there?
Kūkhpō, wānna ḏuŋpa yelo  Get up, it's now daylight
Pțhinćiŋla, pi nāpīn  Buffalo calf, the liver is tasty
Kīlā, pṭhinćiŋla wat'in yelo  Friend, the calf is trying
Kīlā, wákīnyan ukīyelo, tīyo nαpα po  Friend, thunder is
   is coming, rush indoors
Kīlā, Kiyáksi kīgāk a'wēlo  Friend, the Kiyaksi circle are
   come home  – Note: the circle among the Oglala
   who closely intermarry
Hēc' ciy el'o  Over there my older brother died
Miye imātancan yelo  I am in charge
Hōye ci'k'a tiblo  My older brother is of a slight appearance
Wítawalakin kte lo  He will give a talk  – Bl

- Note: they say two meadow larks meet; the one says:
Ta'-yagnunpa, nita'koji wan gli yelo, iwākici yo  Meadow
lark, your grandchild got home, dance for him. Where-
upon the other dances and sings: Ḥahē, hihōhō, or Ḥiye,
ahē'yē Ḥahē hē-hē-hōhō or Ḥē-ye'yē a-hēy-ye'yē hē
ti-yā'ka  ta'-yi-ka'  n : the pylorus or lower orifice
of the stomach of ruminating animals, the large intestine
of ruminating, the smallest manyle of the large intesti-
Dictionaries store information about grammar

- Example sentences: how to use words
  (http://www.lifeprint.com/dictionary.htm)
- Ways to form words (ways in which words are related to one another)

Klamath
Grammar (cont)

-déé/-de’é (v.)

*English: play
‘play with P’:

- bilaaha menashdée ‘I’m playing cards’
- miłnaashdée ‘I play with him/her’
- shiłnaadée ‘he/she plays with me’
- miłnaadée/yiłnaadée ‘he/she is playing with him/her’;
  yiłnaadaadeé ‘he/she is playing with them (on a team)’

‘play’:

- náashdée ‘I’m playing’
- naaséde’é, násede’é ‘I played’
- náashdée ‘I will play’
- násde’é ‘he played’
- naadaadée ‘they are all playing’
- gozhaaazhi nádnnde’é ‘the baby is starting to play’
Dictionaries can store information about society

- Who uses certain words
- Place names
- The connotations of words for different groups
Dictionaries store information about the world around us

- Flora and fauna names, descriptions, usage

**kodjbur** n. Type of tree, used for making of string, handles, dilly bags, apparel, etc; could be woven.
- Wakkidj nunh yilah-yinmiwon bukorrehkunh bulah-monwoninj wakkidj yarl-no-yih nunh budbud bulah-bordolhminj wirribo **kodjbur**, fishing line dubmi whitefella-kun. Wakkidj we call it, they used to make it, with string, they twisted budbud or kodjbur, fishing line today is from whitefellas.
- Dabu, dayarrih yilah-monwon wirrimahkii budbud yarl-noyih, wirrimahkii keninjhihbi djarnhba yarl-no or **kodjbur**. (Small round) dilly bag, we make it, or again from kurrajong string, or what’sit fig string, or kodjbur.
- **Kodjbur** kanh yilah-bordolhmuyawrno yilah-monwon yibarliirr. Kodjbur, that’s the one we weave a small dilly bag (from).

See: kodjil, koroyil.

**Dalabon**

Sister-in-law, comb my hair
Sister, comb my hair
Brother-in-law, comb my hair
Brother, comb my hair
Get up, it’s now daylight
Get in, it’s now daylight
Buffalo calf, the liver is tasty
Buffalo calf, the liver is tasty
Friend, the calf is trying
Friend, the calf is trying
Friend, the Kiyaksi circle are come home — Note: the circle among the Oglala who closely intermarry
Over there my older brother died
I am in charge
My older brother is of a slight appearance
He will give a talk — Bl

**Lakota**

The Dakotas once used them for rattles — R Bl
Note: the Dakotas once used them for rattles — R Bl
Note: the spelling of the word is doubtfully ta'iyata
Note: the spelling of the word is doubtfully ta’iyata
The meadow lark is a friendly bird to the
The meadow lark is a friendly bird to the
Dakotas, with its elaborate lingo:
WHY MAKE A DICTIONARY?
Why make a dictionary?

- Good way to organize language material in general (for languages with lots of morphology in particular; e.g. examples for morpheme senses, allomorphy, etc)
Why make a dictionary?

• **Very** useful to have a list of words in your corpus
  - useful for studying phonology (e.g. phonotactics), morphology, etc
  - can use as the basis for interlinearizing sentence data
  - E.g. Toolbox takes words from a dictionary and breaks down sentence data into word pieces
Why make a dictionary?

• useful community end-product: it’s what everyone wants.
• way to organize cultural and other non-linguistic material
  • E.g. information about items under their names.
• It can point out the gaps in understanding of the language and culture
  • E.g. plant and animal names
  • E.g. grammar (so can this verb really take an object?)
  • E.g. semantics (prototypical meaning/extended meaning)
TYPES OF DICTIONARIES
Types of dictionaries

- Dictionaries come in many shapes and sizes
  - wordlists
  - topical dictionaries or wordlists (e.g. ethnobotany, body parts, spelling books)
  - reference works

- Dictionaries come in many arrangements
  - Orthographically arranged (e.g. Alphabetic/syllabic/radical)
  - Arranged by root/stem (esp for polysynthetic languages)
  - Semantically arranged
Types of dictionaries

- Text dictionaries
- Talking dictionaries
- Picture dictionaries
- [http://www.lifeprint.com/dictionary.htm](http://www.lifeprint.com/dictionary.htm) [sign dictionary]
• monolingual
• bi/multilingual

• Unidirectional
• Bidirectional
Semantic domain dictionaries

- Sorted by areas of meaning
- The Pentaglot, a 17-18 c. multilingual dictionary (Manchu, Tibetan, Mongolian, Uyghur, and Chinese) arranged by meaning group – here ‘last year, this year, next year’ etc.
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<td>clear sky</td>
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[http://www.pentaglot.net/](http://www.pentaglot.net/)
Dictionaries vs other reference works

• Dictionaries vs encyclopedias?
• Dictionaries vs gazetteers (place name books)?

• Artificial.
• Not helpful for smaller language projects, where there isn’t usually funding for more than one type of reference work.
• Hard to draw boundaries between definitions, examples, and encyclopedic information.
Common dictionary formats

• ‘Toolbox’ type (‘MDF’):
  • Language – English dictionary with English finderlist
  • Organized by headword

• Web dictionaries vs. books
  • [http://linguistics.berkeley.edu/~yurok/web/lexicon.html](http://linguistics.berkeley.edu/~yurok/web/lexicon.html)
  • [http://www.pledari.ch/mypedari/](http://www.pledari.ch/mypedari/)
  • [http://203.122.249.186/Lexicons/Burarra/lexicon/mainintro.htm](http://203.122.249.186/Lexicons/Burarra/lexicon/mainintro.htm)
HOW TO CHOOSE WHAT TYPE OF DICTIONARY?
How to choose what type of dictionary to make?

- Main considerations:
  - Audience
  - Time
  - Cost
  - Staff
  - Materials
WHAT GOES INTO A DICTIONARY?
Information in a dictionary entry

- **Lexical/Semantic** – about the word and its meaning, how the word relates to other words in the language
- **Phonological/Phonetic** – pronunciation information
- **Grammatical** – paradigm forms, suppletion, gender/class information, etc
- **Social** – usage contexts, register, dialect, etc
- **Encyclopedic** – information about the item in the real world (e.g. how it’s made, where it lives, etc)
- **Historical** – etymology of the word, is it a loan, etc
Finderlists

French

Mende

HEM

Hemp (used for smoking by the natives), n., diamba.
Hen, n., nsusu nkento.
Herd, n., dibundu, pl. mabundu. A herd of cows, dibundu dia zingaumbe.
Here, adv., ava, vava. Come here, wis'a'ava. It is here, kina vava. Put it here, tul'ava.
Hiccup, n., difudifu, pl. idifudi-fu.
Hide, v., sweka, part. swekanga, p. swékeli.
High, adj., kia-kila, wàula, &c., pl. yàila, mia mila, &c. Look at the high tree, tal' inchi àula. Look at the high trees, tâl' inchi mia mila. A high mountain, nzanz' àula.
Hill, n., nzanza, pl. minzanza.

HOG

Hint, v. (to caution), lukisa, part. lukisanga, p. lukisi. You gave me a hint, ngeye wun dukisi.
Hippopotamus, n., nguvu, pl. zinguvu.
Hire, n. (wages), nfitu. Bring my hire or wages, twal' e nfitu ami. Work and I will pay you, sàla kadi ikufita, or sàla kadi sia fita.
History, n., nsamu, pl. misamu.
Hit, v., yeta, part. yetanga, p. yetili. To hit one another, yetisâna, part. yetisananga, p. yetisâné; caus. yetisâ, part. yetisanga, p. yetisi. To hit a mark, betila (used with tenses of wenda). The stone hit the chair, e ditâdi diele betila muna kian-
du.
Task:

- What types of information are given in these dictionary entries? Try to classify each part of the entry.
Anatomy of a dictionary entry:

1. **Headword and category**
   - Pronoun (object of verb) me (clitic)
   - Most typical translation of this sub-meaning: I hurt ~ me lastimé personalmente; yo; ~, I think that... personalmente, c que...
   - Example with translation: I talked to her ~ le hablé en persona

2. **Explanation of this sub-meaning**
   - (a) myself
   - (b) (meaning 'personally') personalmente; yo; ~
   - (c) (meaning 'not somebody else') yo (mismo); (by) ~ (yo) solo m, (yo) sola f, si m (Infml), solita f (Infml); I did it ~ (as opposed to somebody else) lo hice yo (mismo); (=by myself) lo hice (yo) solo (or) sola, lo hice solito (or) solita (Infml)
   - (d) (=in person) en persona;
Things that can be included in a dictionary

- the **headword** sorted by semantic field or alphabetical order – many database programs allow for variable sorting
- **parts of speech** (be very careful about creating parts of speech labels on the basis of the gloss of the word. This is very misleading.)
- phonological **irregularities; pronunciation** if unpredictable from the standard orthography
- a single-word **gloss** for interlinearization
- a more detailed **definition**
- morphological **paradigmatic** information, such as gender, class or conjugation.
- any notes on comments your consultant made about the semantics of an item
- **encyclopaedic** information, e.g., information on an item’s usage or ethnographic information about the cultural importance of the item. This could be accompanied by a picture
- synonyms and antonyms, hyponyms or other information about how the word relates to other items in the lexicon
- **example sentences** illustrating usage, with translations
Now you tell us …
centrum, i, n., = κέντρον (a prickle, sharp point).

I Centrum circini, the stationary foot of the compasses, around which the other is carried in making a circle. Vitr. 3, 1; 9, 5.—Hence,

II Meton.

A The middle point of a circle, the centre. Vitr. 3, 1; 9, 1; Plin. 2, 15, 13, § 63; 2, 19, 17, § 81 et saep.—In plur.: solis terraeque centra, Plin. 18, 29, 69, § 281 (in Cie. Tusc. 1, 17, 40, used as a Greek word).—

B A kernel, a hard knot in the interior of wood, precious stones, etc., Plin. 16, 39, 76, § 198; 37, 2, 10, § 28; 37, 9, 39, § 120 al.
**hoden** ('udən), a. Kentish dial. Also hudden. [Origin uncertain: perh. from association with wooden from the wooden horse's head.] Of or pertaining to the horse with wooden head and clapping jaws featured in a masquerade which formerly took place, spec. in Kent, on Christmas Eve. 'hodener, a performer in this masquerade; 'hodening, the name of the performance; also attrib.

*1807 European Mag. LV. 358* This [mumming] is called, provincially, a Hodening, and the figure above described a Hoden, or Woden horse. *1887 Parish & Shaw Dict. Kentish Dial.* 77 Hoodening..., the name formerly given to a mumming or masquerade. *1891 Church Times 2 Jan. 20/1*

'Hodening' still goes on... at Deal and Walmer. *1909 P. Maylam Hooden Horse i. 2* Everyone springs up, saying, 'The hoodeners have come, let us go and see the fun.' *Ibid.* 7 A farm with more than one team would have a hudden horse to each team. *Ibid.* 9, I had intended to walk on to Deal and look for the hoodening parties there. *1966 G. E. Evans Pattern under Plough* xix. 193 The hobby-horses that appear in many countryside ceremonies and ritual dances, notably the Hodening Horse. *1971 Country Life 17 June 1533/1* The Hooden Horse, a mystic man-animal found only in East Kent, will be at large in Folkestone... June 19.
Dictionary entries (2)

- the source of the word (e.g., if a borrowing; etymology, if known)
- semantic field(s) of the item
- any usage information – e.g., if it is slang or taboo
- a reversal field (so that you can compile an English-Language finderlist from your data)
- sound clip(s), and example sentences
- derived words
- the source of the information (e.g., who told you the word)
- questions for further research.
PRACTICUM
Task 1

- Task for participants:
  - Have a look at two sites/books and answer the following questions:
    - Is it unidirectional or bidirectional?
    - What audience have they designed the dictionary for?
    - How have they organized entries?
    - What information have they included?
    - Do we know anything about their underlying data (source)?
    - What do you like/not like about the dictionary?
Task 2

- Think about your field site, your language, or a language you’re interested in, and talk about these questions in small groups:
  - Does the language already have a dictionary?
  - What language information is available? (grammar? field notes? speakers?)
  - Is there community interest in a dictionary?
  - Is there a school language program?
Homework!

- Bring a list of ten words from a language of your choice. [any ten!]
- Spend 20 minutes on this task.
- Remember any problems/questions to bring to class tomorrow.