

Language Revival:

Securing the Future of Endangered Languages

Course Details

No Prerequisites Required

Course Dates

This is a self-paced course so you can learn when it suits you.

Time Commitment

Between 2 to 3 hours per week.

Assessment

To qualify for a certificate, all challenge questions and self-check reports must be completed. edX will only issue certificates to participants that have chosen the verified track and complete the course with a grade of 50% or higher. **When your certificate is available, you will be notified in your edX dashboard.**

Grading Scheme

Pass (50% or higher)
Fail (under 50%)

Course Syllabus

Course Overview

Language is an integral part of society. Wherever we come from, the words we use and the way in which we use them are fundamental to our cultural identity. In today's increasingly globalised world, however, 'linguicide' – the loss of a language – is becoming all too common. But there is hope. The language revival movement has emerged as an important and effective response, and this course will introduce you to its key principles and techniques.

After discussing powerful answers to the question of why languages should be revived, we'll investigate how. Far more than just a simple process of recovering literacy and lost letters, language revival involves a deep and complex engagement with history, human rights, identity and wellbeing. You will also learn what's being done around the world right now, and how effective these techniques have been.

What you'll learn

- Explore connections between language and identity.
- Understand the impact of language loss on people around the world.
- Examine what is being done to revive languages today.

1. Linguicide (Case for Revival)

Week 1 Learning Objectives

- Understand the ethics of language revival.
- Discuss the aesthetic considerations.
- Explore the political and economic imperatives for language revival.

Week 1 Assessment Requirements

You'll be assessed on the following items:

- Completion of the weekly challenge questions.
- Completion of the weekly self-check reports.

Important: *it is also expected that you engage in all weekly discussions and activities.*

2. Revivalistics (New Trans-disciplinary Field of Enquiry)

Week 2 Learning Objectives

- Express how and why working closely with your community is the best practice for language revival.
- Discuss ways in which to coin new terms for new concepts and modern terminology.
- Detail how and why language revival is a trans-disciplinary, including linguistic, endeavour.

Week 2 Assessment Requirements

You'll be assessed on the following items:

- Completion of the weekly challenge questions.
- Completion of the weekly self-check reports.

Important: *it is also expected that you engage in all weekly discussions and activities.*

3. Israeli (Case Study: Revived Hebrew)

Week 3 Learning Objectives

- Describe the history of Hebrew and Israeli.
- Start coining phono-semantic matches in order to expand the vocabulary of your revived language.
- Analyse multiple causation and cross-fertilization between languages, which are an inevitable by-product of language revival.
- Apply the Founder Principle and the Congruence Principle in various contexts.

Week 3 Assessment Requirements

You'll be assessed on the following items:

- Completion of the weekly challenge questions.
- Completion of the weekly self-check reports.

***Important:** it is also expected that you engage in all weekly discussions and activities.*

4. Kurna (Case Study)

Week 4 Learning Objectives

- Discuss what happened to Kurna and why it should be reclaimed.
- Detail the sources and methods used to transform the language.
- Explain how Kurna language is used in the public domain.
- Outline how to overcome the challenges for reawakening a language.

Week 4 Assessment Requirements

You'll be assessed on the following items:

- Completion of the weekly challenge questions.
- Completion of the weekly self-check reports.

***Important:** it is also expected that you engage in all weekly discussions and activities.*

5. Saving Languages (Recapitulation, Comparative Analysis)

Week 5 Learning Objectives

- Discuss and apply the rigour of the Language Revival Diamond (LaRD).
- Differentiate and compare the key components of language revival as applied to the spectrum of reclamation, revitalization and reinvigoration.
- Detail the various methods employed to revive a language in a given state of loss.
- Discuss ways in which languages might be preserved, revived or reclaimed, for future generations.
- Contrast and compare the constraints and limitations of languages under revival.

Week 5 Assessment Requirements

You'll be assessed on the following items:

- Completion of the weekly challenge questions.
- Completion of the weekly self-check reports.

Important: *it is also expected that you engage in all weekly discussions and activities.*

DISCUSSION FORUM ETIQUETTE AND FREQUENCY

We expect you to follow the [edX Code of Conduct](#) at all times and keep your posts/responses positive on the learning forums.

Post regularly, at least once per discussion activity and be sure to respond to your peers, as instructed.

FACEBOOK COMMUNITY

Please share your insights with all of us at the Language Revival Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/Revivalistics/>