**Project:** Research Lineage Trace

**Goals:** Gain a general framework for research articles in psychology and language, learn how to use the PsycInfo system, etc.

**Description:** Sometimes the best way to understand research in psychology is to actually *read* the original research in a particular subject. This project is designed to show you how research inspires more research, which creates a “lineage” or set of papers that can be traced backwards in time.

**Rules:**

* Topic must be related to psychology and language. Anthropology and linguistics are each interesting in their own right, but your starting point should be a psychology background.
* First article must be from a peer-reviewed journal. Not sure? Ask. Most of the works you’ll find on PsycInfo will be peer reviewed.
* First article must have been published in the last two years (2014-2015).
* First article must be empirical (unless I give you special permission). Empirical works have experiments in them. The experiments may be correlational designs (they didn’t manipulate anything, survey research, etc.) or experimental designs, but you must have experiments in your paper. This restriction excludes summary papers, theory papers, but not quite meta-analyses. If you aren’t sure, ask or look for a Methods section in the article.
* You will need 10 article summaries in total for full credit. You should not wait until the end of the semester to get started or you will get stuck. Not all of the journals will be available online.
  + Hints: Try Google Scholar for journals the library does not have access to. You can try searching for a particular author’s website as well.
  + Interlibrary loan will PDF copy you articles you can’t find on the web. It’s not very quick though, so another reason not to wait to get started.
* You will fill out an Article Summary Sheet for each article and upload them on blackboard. The assignment is set up as a blog so that you can turn things in as you finish them (the assignment system is very messy for projects like this one). You will hit “create blog entry” at the top of the page. Then you can cut and paste your article summary into the blog comments or attach a word document of the blog. This way you can put files online as you go, it’s easy for me to read and grade, and the assignment system doesn’t crash and explode.

**Final Presentation:** You will give up to a 10-minute presentation about the trace of your research. You will need to briefly outline each paper (their results) and how it inspired the next paper in the research line. Powerpoint presentations are normal, but you can give the presentation however you’d like as long as it’s clear and understandable.