Katya Donovan and Samantha Young

Project Proposal

Our project will be an interactive data visual that shows the map of the world and the amount of languages spoken in each modern day country. The color of each country on the map will represent the amount of languages spoken in that country, which the user can then manipulate by sliding through the year, in order to see how the amount of languages in each country has changed. A stretch goal for us would be to actually indicate what the languages are in each country when the user scrolls over the country.

Samantha Young: Become better with data manipulation and interactive programs. I have minimum experience working with user interaction. Additionally, stylistically, implement functions, classes and methods more.
Katya Donovan: Learn how to work with user interaction as well as working with a partner on a programming project. Additionally, I want to make sure that my code is neat and logical.

We are planning to use Glottolog, which is a database that is most commonly used by linguists. There is data that currently indicates the languages spoken by each country and per region, and with further research, we hope to find the evolution of these languages (in terms of how many languages per country.) However, if we are unable to find this data, then we will create our own data, in order to build the tool that will work for real data.

For our mid-way project check in, we hope to have completely found useful data and a working library that allows us to manipulate the data. Once we have this data, we will have tested how to sort it and separate it into regions. We will have begun playing with the interactive design of our project, which will include being able to map out the languages based on color for one year. The following week, we will work on making sure that the user can scroll through the years to see the change in color.

To be completely honest, the lack of time will probably be the biggest risk for this project in terms of debugging and getting everything to work. Another big risk is that there is not a clear data set that we can use in order to compile our interactive data visualization.