

## **The Alice F. Freed Prize in Language, Discourse, and Society**

The “Alice F. Freed Prize in Language, Discourse, and Society” is an annual prize of \$250 that recognizes one graduate student in Linguistics who completes the Master of Arts Degree Program in Applied Linguistics with outstanding work in the field of Sociolinguistics, Discourse Analysis, or Language and Culture. The prize will be awarded in May of each academic year. The full-time faculty of the Linguistics Department will select the recipient of the prize according to the following criteria:

1. The student’s research for the capstone course APLN 605, Research Questions in Applied Linguistics (either Option A or Option B) falls within the domain of “Sociolinguistics,” “Discourse Analysis,” or “Language and Culture.” The range of possible topics includes work on language change and variation; forensic linguistics (i.e., language and the law); language and gender; the analysis of ordinary, electronically-mediated or institutional discourse; narrative analysis; conversation analysis; critical discourse analysis; literacy; language planning and policy; and topics within the field of anthropological linguistics. Examples of past MA student research within these fields are listed at the bottom of this announcement.
2. In addition to the required courses for the MA in Applied Linguistics (which must include APLN 502 Sociolinguistics), the student completes at least one elective from the following list of courses and receives no less than an A- in the course:

APLN 510, Discourse Analysis

APLN 512, Cross-Cultural Discourse Analysis

APLN 518, Forensic Linguistics

APLN 530, Language Policy and Language Planning

APLN 532, Language and Culture

APLN 534, Languages in Contact

APLN 535, Language Policy in Nations in Transition

APLN 536, Languages of the U.S.A

APLN 538, Cross-cultural Perspectives on Language Socialization

APLN 540, Literacy

APLN 542, Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Literacy

APLN 582, Language and Mobile Communication

[Note: Courses and course titles often change over time. If new linguistics courses are developed in these specific areas of study, they may be added to the list of possible electives. All courses are to be taken in the Linguistics Department at Montclair State University or at the Linguistic Society of America’s Summer Linguistic Institute.]

3. The student has an overall GPA of at least a 3.80 in courses leading to the MA in Applied Linguistics. In the case that a student is completing other courses toward the MA in Applied Linguistics in the same semester that the research for APLN 605 is being

carried out, the student must have a 3.80 by the end of the preceding semester and must be in excellent standing in all remaining courses at the time that the application for this prize is submitted. [See how to calculate your GPA at <http://www.montclair.edu/nse/advising/calculator.html>]

4. To be considered for this prize, students must fill out the application form (page 3 of this announcement) and submit it to the Linguistics Department Office by April 1 of the academic year of graduation, whether for a January, May or August graduation.

Examples from past MA student research that fall within the scope of this prize are listed below.

1. The structure of lesbian self-realization stories
2. The case of “generic” *you*
3. Computer-mediated discussion groups as communities of practice
4. Critical discourse analysis of the treatment of Monica Lewinsky in the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal
5. Socio-political motivations for code-switching in Israel
6. Language socialization in Italian-speaking children
7. News media racial profiling
8. The discourse marker *o sea* in spoken Mexican Spanish
9. The function of silence as a discourse feature in direct and cross-examinations in a criminal trial
10. Pragmatic shift in apologies in Chinese
11. *Been* and beyond: tense/aspect marking in North Alabama English
12. The sign language interpreter’s role in turn-taking and simultaneous talk in non-face-to-face interpreted interactions
13. The use of the past tense verb form for the past participle in NYC English
14. The use of narrative to mark group membership and construct identity on myspace.com
15. Usage patterns of *thanks* and *thank you* in American English families
16. The effectiveness of mass notification text messages
17. Study of Hindi-English code-switching and identity in Hindi movies
18. A study of the discourse marker *aí* in spoken Brazilian Portuguese
19. Code-switching by English/Turkish bilingual children
20. Ebonics and American public schools

**Application**

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**Deadline for Application: No later than April 1** of the academic year of graduation. The completed application is to be submitted to the **Linguistics Department Office**.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Student's ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

**1. APLN 605 Research Questions in Applied Linguistics:**

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Option A or Option B? \_\_\_\_\_ Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. APLN 502 Sociolinguistics:**

When taken? \_\_\_\_\_ Taught by? \_\_\_\_\_ Grade received? \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Elective from the list above: Course taken? APLN \_\_\_\_\_**

When taken? \_\_\_\_\_ Taught by? \_\_\_\_\_ Grade received? \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Overall GPA: \_\_\_\_\_** (This is your GPA for MA courses in Applied Linguistics as of January of the academic year in which you expect to graduate.)

Student's signature: Please confirm by signing that you will have completed all 37 semester hours and all requirements for the MA in Applied Linguistics by the end of May of the current academic year. (An August graduation date is permissible when the final 1 semester-hour grade for APLN 605 needs to be submitted after the close of the spring term.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Linguistics Department Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date application was submitted

**A copy of this dated application is to be provided to the student.**