KRIOL (an Australian Creole)

Kompyuta geim ‘Computer Game’

Detmob la Katherine Language Centre bin meigim lilwan kompyuta geim. Im album yu bla len yu langgus. Biginini mob laigim yusim kopyuta en thei len dat langgus gudwei la det lilwan geim.

‘People at the Katherine Language Centre made a little computer game to help you learn language. Children enjoy using computers so the games are a good way for them to learn their language.’

(Voice of the Land, Vol. 34, Jan 26, 2007, p. 21.)

GREETINGS!

Wai Palyan?
(Western Desert)

Nangga?
(Adnyamathanha, Flinders Ranges)

Nhāmi nhunum?
(Rirratjiŋu, Yirrkala, NT)

Niina mami?
(Kaurna, Adelaide Plains, SA)

Arru anpa!
(Arabana, Lake Eyre Basin)

Yaama!
(Yuwaalaraay, North West, NSW)

Yarrabeel
(Ganai, Gippsland, VIC)

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An upper-level undergraduate course, with
Community Access $250
(delivered over three weeks in June-July 2014)

Further information:
Dr Rob Amery
LINGUISTICS, SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES
NAPIER BUILDING LEVEL 9 (Rm 910)
THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE SA 5005
TELEPHONE +61 8 8313 3924
rob.amery@adelaide.edu.au
http://hss.adelaide.edu.au/directory/robert.amery

Aboriginal Australia Wall Map, D R Horton, Aboriginal Studies Press, AIATSIS, 1996

Yaitya warrarna warraparna!
‘Let Indigenous languages be spoken!’
Creating new words

Tura ‘shade; shadow; picture; image’
Tura + tura ‘images’
Turatura + rnti ‘images continuously’ Turaturamti api ‘thing that continually makes images’
Turaturamtiapi ti ‘photocopier’ (Kaurna, SA)

Yolnu kin terms without simple English equivalents
- maralkur ‘mother’s mother’s brother’s son; mukul rumaru’s brother’
- mumalkur ‘mother’s mother’s mother’s brother’s daughter; mother’s mother’s brother’s wife; mother’s brother’s mother-in-law; mukul rumaru’s mother; ṇathiwalkur’s sister’

One word for many…
Bilybara ‘piles of leaves and twigs left by floods’ (Ngarla, Pilbara WA)
Warlu ‘bark hanging off a tree, swinging in the wind’ (Ngiyampaa, NSW)
Nyimpe ‘the smell of rain’ (Eastern Arrernte, Central Australia)
Nguiimbaiendi ‘withdraw, creep back, creep into, like the feeler of a snail’ (Kaurna, SA)

Course Description

Prerequisite: 12 units level 1 Humanities/Social Sciences

The course provides an introduction to Australia’s Indigenous languages (including Aboriginal English varieties, koines and creoles), with a particular focus on the Indigenous languages of South Australia.

It investigates structural features of Australian languages (for example, sounds, spellings, vocabularies, grammars, semantics) as well as their place within Australian society.

Particular emphasis will be given to attempts to maintain and revive Australia’s unique linguistic heritage and the linguistic tools needed for language work.

Content of the course
- Language, Land and Identity
- Distribution of Australian and South Australian Indigenous Languages
- Language and Culture
- Sound and Writing Systems
- Lexicon, Semantics and Metaphor
- Australian Aboriginal Grammars
- Language Connections
- Aboriginal Languages in Education
- Language Maintenance and Revival
- Aboriginal English and Australian Creoles
- Torres Strait Islander Languages
- Language and the Law
- Future Prospects

Why learn about Australian Indigenous Languages?
- To develop an awareness of our national linguistic and cultural heritage
- To gain an understanding of other cultures and cultural concepts
- To prepare for work in Aboriginal schools or communities
- To discover the unique place of Australian Indigenous languages in Linguistics