SC State Project on Language and Culture

The Department of English and Modern Languages hosts this Web Portal for research in Linguistics, Language and Culture, with a concentration on South Carolina. The project was initiated by Dr. S. B. Saloné from work that she has been doing for the past 8 years on dialects in the state.

This project showcases the Department of English and Modern Languages’ work in the area of research and analysis in Linguistics, Communications and Cultural Studies. The overall goal of the Portal is to be a hub of research activity related to dialect studies, creole studies and cultural studies. We have faculty specialists in Linguistics, Socio-Linguistics, Communications and Cultural Studies. Currently, our Faculty Research Pages contain articles by the following professors.


We also feature a photo exhibit by Dr. Nathaniel Wallace, as well as edited linguistic papers by Dr. Saloné.

For several years, our students have been involved in projects to collect data for analysis from the myriad dialects, languages and cultures represented in our state. The student projects bring data from small towns all over the state, as well as from the coastal areas and the Gullah-speaking islands. These analyses focus on syntax, phonology, semantics, morphology and culture/anthropological studies; and the goal of the project is to share our academic findings with other scholars who might be working on cultures and languages in other parts of the United States and the world. The student papers are presented as text documents in HTML, with 1-3 minute audio clips representing either the dialects spoken by the language consultants or the cultural narratives/ interviews done by the students. This will be a very valuable collection of materials for scholarly comparison.
Another very important purpose of the site is to **archive** the richness of cultures and languages of the South and of South Carolina. The audio clips as well as the student and faculty papers will be available into the future as a living legacy of the beautiful cultures and languages found in the state. Moreover, as many of these dialects have not been studied and as many of these narrative stories have not been told, our site will remain an important repository of these linguistic and cultural materials.

We are very appreciative to Mr. Jason B. Barr in UCITS for his technical expertise in this endeavor; and we remain grateful to Dr. Ghussan Greene for her leadership and vision in supporting this project.