Missions Research Team
2–30 July 2022

Essential Information
This is a virtual student missions project with Linguæ Christi. It is a Track Two project and offers placement for a minimum of two students. The application deadline is 1 June 2022. Please visit our website to view projects within the categories of Business, Creation, Knowledge, Leadership, and Translation.

Programme Costs
$150 (USD) or £105 (GBP) or €120 (Euro). Assistance with programme costs is available.

Competencies and Academic Credit
Participants should have some previous engagement in academic pursuits, including writing research or term papers. This experience, common to almost any academic discipline, is the only prerequisite for this assignment. For students or educators who would like to receive or offer academic credit for this project, please view the academic credit information sheet on our website.

Rationale
Solomon said, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." Learning, information, knowledge, understanding, and wisdom are essential elements in the life of a follower of Jesus. We at Linguæ Christi believe that these elements are also essential in helping us fulfil the calling that God has given to us to take the Gospel to speakers of indigenous minority languages in Europe through the medium of their heart languages. Furthermore, in order to bring other believers from around the world along with us in the fulfilment of this vision, we must be able to articulate and share this knowledge with others effectively; we must educate and motivate God's people to action for the sake of His glory and the joy of these often overlooked European people groups.

This team furthers these goals by addressing in a rigorous and academically disciplined manner topics of both a conceptual, philosophical, theological, and practical nature. This will inform and inspire our efforts to reach these people groups with the Gospel, and give concrete data from which we can develop new strategic initiatives on-field. The final research documents would be used to help us to cast this vision among the worldwide Christian community in a way that is clear, verifiable, and reasoned.

Goals
1. That the Lord Jesus would be glorified in the industry and obedience of the participants in these programmes (Col. 3:17).

2. That the participants would develop a sense of missions calling and service through utilising their existing gifts, skills, interests, and fields of study and/or training.

3. That the participants would discover, learn and grow in their:

   - Love and devotion to Christ
   - Knowledge of missions, missiology, and especially the work and mission of Linguæ Christi
   - Understanding of themselves and their place in God's will and mission to the world
   - Ability to serve in a team setting
   - Ability to use their education, skills, talents, and interests for the sake of the Kingdom and to God's glory

4. That the participants in their teams and projects would produce "real world" resources with immediate and/or future applicability to the on-going ministry of Linguæ Christi in the areas of mobilisation, education, and direct missionary engagement. These resources would not be possible or available were it not for these projects and participants.

Introduction

Through research and writing, this team would address various subjects which would be useful to the ongoing work of Linguæ Christi. This team could potentially be quite large, and would be separated into sub-teams, which will be addressed below.

The research foci would fall roughly into two categories: (1) information needs, where the content is unknown and the research team would discover the required body of information for use by Linguæ Christi, and (2) information needs where the content is known to us, but has not been collected and articulated in a research-based document.

Project structure

The research process applied to the subjects will be characterised according to widely accepted academic expectations for research at the university level. This would include accepted research techniques and use of sources, documentation, and formatting, all of which will culminate in the form of a paper. We would expect the paper for each area of research to be approximately 3000 words. A collaborative (rather than individual) model will be used for the research, writing, and presentation of the paper for each research subject. Approaching these information and research needs in an academic fashion will produce these specific beneficial outcomes:

1. It provides structure for approaching and completing the task.

2. It offers greater assurance of the accuracy and verifiability of the information and outcomes as communicated in the final paper.

3. It gives a level of uniformity in the final papers.

4. For those students who have arranged to receive academic credit for their participation in this programme, the final outcome of their assignment will be in an acceptable academic format to be submitted for credit without the need of further editing or adjustment.

Assignments

This team will be divided into sub-teams, each of which will be the collaborative group focusing on a specific topic for research. Each sub-team or research collaboration will be made up of no fewer than three people and no more than five. The number of research topics will be determined by the total number of participants who apply to be a part of this team. For example, if there were 20 participants, this would allow up to five research topics, each with a research collaboration group of four people.

Once the total number of participants is set, we would determine the exact number and nature of the research topics that would be the focus of the summer project. Two weeks before the commencement of the programme, we would communicate to the participants the number and exact nature of the research topics. They would then be invited to sign up for the topic of their choice. Again, we would prefer four participants researching each topic. The invitation to sign up for the topics will be announced to all participants, and it will be determined by the personal choice of the participants on a first-come, first-served basis.

Upon assignment to a specific research topic and research collaboration group, participants may go ahead and explore their assignment at their leisure. During the orientation week, there will be a track for specialised training and guidance. This time during orientation will set the delineation of duties and expectations which will guide and govern the remaining time researching the specific topic, culminating in the writing and submission of the paper.

Sample Topics

Research on these topics below would assist Linguæ Christi with missions strategy development and implementation, as well as articulating important information which can be shared publicly with supporters, potential missions partners, and missionary personnel.

1. A survey of Gospel resources in heart languages and a description of the state of Evangelical Christian presence and missionary initiatives through the medium of these heart languages, with primary focus on speakers of indigenous minority Italo-Romance languages in the European context.

2. An exhaustive survey of new technology and detailed recommendation of and developmental action plan for practical use of available technology toward a comprehensive missions approach, i.e., evangelism, discipleship, Church planting and development, and leadership training, among speakers of European indigenous minority languages, who are either nomadic or extremely geographically isolated.

3. The intersection of the Babel and Pentecost narratives as a theological and missiological context and impetus for the use of heart languages in cross-cultural missionary initiatives among speakers of autochthonous minority languages.

4. *Heilsgeschichte*—when less is more: an examination of divine calling of the few, the weak, the marginalised, and the insignificant, who in turn accomplished great deeds in salvation history with a focus on the Biblical sources and the history of Christian missions and with an analysis of commonalities between these Biblical and historical examples.

How to Apply

Please visit Linguæ Christi's website to access our [interest form](#). Applicants will then receive access to an application form, including references and, where relevant, examples of their work. Face-to-face interviews via video calls may be required for specific placements. Please contact us at [info@linguaechristi.org](#) for more information.