Mesoamerican Writing Systems
Linguistics 558

This Spring 2014 term:

Master the basics of Mayan hieroglyphic writing:
orthography, phonology, morphology, syntax, discourse structure

Immerse yourself in Mayan cultural and linguistic history

Learn Mayan calligraphy

Discover other writing systems from Mexico and Central America (Zapotec, Epi-Olmec), including several undeciphered ones (Olmec, Teotihuacan)

Explore the boundaries between linguistically- and pictorially-coded writing with the Mixtec and Aztec scripts

Apply the methodologies for linguistic decipherment and analysis of ancient scripts

Special topics: Paleography, Ergativity/Voice/Discourse/Pragmatics

Wilson 217, MWF 10-1050 am

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