

Fundamentals of Lexicography
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Basics

Instructor: Kenneth L. Rehg
Department of Linguistics
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

E-Mail: rehg@hawaii.edu

Workshop Goal

The goal of this workshop is to provide you with a conceptual framework within which you can build and maintain a dictionary.

Workshop Content

A dictionary is a product. The development of successful new products, from software to widgets to dictionaries, involves the same five steps.

1. Research
2. Planning
3. Construction
4. Distribution
5. Support

We will consider what each of these steps entails in the development of a dictionary.

Essential Reading

Coward, David F., and Charles E. Grimes. 2000. *Making dictionaries: A guide to lexicography and the multi-dictionary formatter*. SIL International. Available on the web at: <http://www.sil.org/computing/shoebox/MDF.html> .

Landau, Sydney I. 2001. 2nd edition. *Dictionaries: The art and craft of lexicography*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Other Useful Books

Atkins, B.T. Sue, and Michael Rundell. *The Oxford guide to practical lexicography*. 2008. New York: Oxford University Press.

Bejoint, Henri. 2000. *Modern lexicography: An introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Fontenelle, Thierry (ed.) 2008. *Practical lexicography: A reader*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Frawley, William, Kenneth C. Hill, and Pamela Munro (eds.) 2002. *Making dictionaries: Preserving indigenous languages of the Americas*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Hartmann, R.R.K. 1983. *Lexicography: Principles and practices*. London: Academic Press.

- Hartmann, R.R.K. 2001. *Teaching and Researching Lexicography*. Harlow, England: Pearson Education Limited.
- Jackson, Howard. 2002. *Lexicography: An introduction*. London: Routledge.
- Sterkenburg, Piet van (ed.) 2003. *A practical guide to lexicography*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Svensén, Bo. 1993. *Practical Lexicography: Principles and Methods of Dictionary-Making*. Oxford University Press.
- Zgusta, Ladislav. 1971. *Manual of lexicography*. The Hague: Mouton.

Non-Technical Reading

- Green, Jonathon. 1996. *Chasing the sun: Dictionary makers and the dictionaries they made*. New York: Henry Holt and Company.
- Murray, K. M. Elisabeth. 1977. *Caught in the web of words: James Murray and the Oxford English Dictionary*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Winchester, Simon. 1998. *The professor and the madman: a tale of murder, insanity, and the making of the Oxford English Dictionary*. New York: Harper Collins.
- Winchester, Simon. 2003. *The meaning of everything: The story of the Oxford English Dictionary*. New York: Oxford University Press.

An Excellent Bibliography Available on the Web

R.R.K. Hartmann Bibliography of Lexicography (Google and download PDF.)

Handouts

I will provide you with several handouts during the course of the workshop.

Thoughts

A dictionary is a thousand pages of ideas and history, a guide to the mind and the world of a people. No book—except for, perhaps, religious documents, themselves guides to the mind and world of a people—has a shelf life longer than a dictionary. Surely that must be worth something. (*Frawley, Hill, and Munro 2002:22*)

To know and not to do is not yet to know. *Zen Proverb*