



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

LING 201 LEC 1
Introduction to Linguistics I
Winter 2021
Class time: MWF 9:00 – 9:50 AM
<https://ucalgary.zoom.us/>
(id and passcode in D2L)

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Darin Flynn

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 9:30-10:30 AM or by appointment (Zoom info in D2L)

E-MAIL: dflynn@ucalgary.ca (I will respond to e-mails within 48 hrs during weekdays)

DESCRIPTION

"Introduction to the scientific study of language, including the analysis of word, sentence, and sound structure, and the exploration of language as a human, biological, social, and historical phenomenon."
(Calendar)

OBJECTIVES

I will provide an overview of the field of modern linguistics, give you basic tools for linguistic analysis, and illustrate common linguistic phenomena using data from your own languages as well as languages that you are currently learning or plan to learn.

My objective as instructor is to make LING 201 as broadly appealing as possible while still providing you with an intellectually honest and sufficiently rigorous introduction to the field of linguistics, because this course is not only a valuable elective for any student but also a prerequisite for all courses required for our:

- Minor in Linguistics
- Minor in Speech-Language Sciences
- B.A. in Linguistics
- B.A in Linguistics and Language
- B.A. Honours in Linguistics

LING 201 is a prerequisite for most other LING undergraduate courses, too.

OUTCOMES

Skills

- By the end of the course, you should have developed advanced problem-solving skills and learnt basic problem-solving techniques in the subdisciplines taught in the Linguistics Division.
- You should have improved your communication and presentation skills and become more articulate and accurate in describing linguistic phenomena and in presenting arguments, orally and in writing.
 - You will be working on these skills primarily by providing short explanations for answers to questions on assignments and exams, as well as in classroom discussion.
- You may improve your ability to critically analyze and synthesize scientific literature. This is not a direct focus of LING 201, but I will provide you some additional readings from "pop linguistics" outside of our required textbook readings.
 - If you're highly motivated, you may also partake in the critical thinking/research participation offering for LING 201, where you could earn extra credit for the course by providing a short review of a scientific journal article from the field.
- You will take some steps toward developing some skills in empirical research (experimental, corpus, field, or other). You will be asked to collect language data from your environment, for example.



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- If you're highly motivated, you may also have the opportunity to at least participate in empirical research through the critical thinking/research participation program.
- You should have developed good skills in analyzing data. This is one of the primary skills that you will develop over the course of the semester. Most of the course is devoted to practice exercises, homework exercises, and exam questions that teach you how to analyze the underlying structures in sound, words, and sentences.
- You should have developed some skills in theoretical argumentation. You will begin to acquire these skills in considering and arguing for solutions to problems, as well as in considering arguments for principles and tools of the theories you work with.

Knowledge

- By the end of the course you should know what is meant by "scientific method" and know how it applies in linguistic research.
- To avoid confusion, you will not be introduced to theoretical debates in the subfields of linguistics, but there will be some general discussion of this kind.
- You will have a good grasp of basic concepts, terminology, principles, formalisms appropriate to the various subfields. You should have awareness of the breadth of the discipline, should have good core knowledge of subfields as well as a good understanding of interfaces, that is, of how the components of grammar interact with each other.
 - This is the primary focus of this introductory course. Basic concepts, terminology, formalisms, and other tools are introduced for each subfield treated in LING 201. Relations between components of the grammar are also explicitly discussed in transitions between units.
- You should have some historical awareness of the discipline. Notably, I will present a brief historical overview in the introduction to the course.
- You will have developed an appreciation of linguistic diversity; you will be aware of and have been exposed to a wide range of linguistic phenomena in all domains of sound, words, sentences, meaning). This is a major focus of the course. While all course units feature the analysis of (Canadian) English, you will also be exposed to a wide variety of languages and language types, which feature likewise in homework and examinations.

Linguistics in a broader context

- On completion of this course, you will have gained insights into language—"what some might call the "human essence," the distinctive qualities of mind that are, so far as we know, unique to man" (Noam Chomsky).
- As such, you should have an awareness of the contribution of linguistics to the advancement of human knowledge
- You should know how to articulate and explain linguistics as a field of inquiry based on unconscious knowledge; this is addressed explicitly at various points throughout the course.
- You should have improved your understanding of Indigenization and reconciliation efforts and engaged with Indigenous languages.
- You will be able to discuss issues related to the nature and function of language with respect

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

- William O'Grady & John Archibald (2021). Contemporary Linguistic Analysis: An Introduction (9th edition). Pearson.
 - Note that the book is available to purchase in the university bookstore.
 - You may consider purchasing the ebook version.
- Any additional materials will be posted on D2L.

RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

- William O'Grady & John Archibald (2021). Study guide for contemporary linguistic analysis: An introduction (9th edition). Pearson.



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COURSE NOTES

- All lectures will be synchronous and conducted by Zoom: MWF 9:00 – 9:50 AM
- There will be some group work in Zoom’s breakout rooms; your interactions with other students must be patient and respectful.
- Attendance is not required but strongly recommended — the exercises practiced in class will help you succeed on assignments and exams. If you must miss a class, please watch the recording in D2L as soon as possible, to keep up with the course.
- Because we will be recording classes (to be uploaded in D2L after each class), please keep your microphone muted unless you have a question, in which case please use the icon to put up your hand and/or unmute yourself, or else send a message in the chat.
 - Technology requirements:
 - A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates
 - A current and updated web browser
 - Webcam/Camera (built-in or external)
 - Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone
 - Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled
 - Stable internet connection
- There is a holiday (no class) on Monday, October 11.
- There is a term break (no classes) November 7–13
- All homework assignments and exams will be made available in D2L (Assessments Dropbox) one week before your answers are due. The due dates for each item are listed below. Requests for an extension in advance of the deadline will be considered and if approved, will incur no penalties. Late submissions without advance notice will incur a 10% deduction per day late.
- The final exam will not be cumulative; it will only address the topics and material covered after the midterm exam is posted (Oct. 22 – Dec. 10). If you are ill or cannot take an exam due to a personal emergency during the scheduled time for an exam, please let me know as soon as possible.

ASSESSMENT

- 4 assignments: 40% (10% each: Sep. 24, Oct. 13, Nov. 19, Dec. 1)
- Takehome midterm exam: 30% (due on Oct. 29)
- Non-cumulative take-home final exam: 30% (due on Dec. 17)
- Critical Thinking + Research Participation (max. 4 points)
 - Students may also earn extra credit for their course grade by either
 - participating in ongoing language-oriented research studies at the University, or
 - writing short, critical reviews of published papers in linguistics
 - More details on how to earn extra credit in this fashion may be found on the D2L site for the course.

GRADING SCALE

Course grades will be assigned on a distribution that is NOT more restrictive than the one below:

A+ 97-100%	B+ 84-88%	C+ 69-73%	D+ 54-58%
A 93-96%	B 79-83%	C 64-68%	D 50-53%
A- 89-92%	B- 74-78%	C- 59-63%	F 0-49%

- As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor’s discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.
- To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A, but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).



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Criteria for Letter Grades

- A+ grade: Exceptional Performance. An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.
- A, A- Range: Excellent Performance. Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.
- B Range: Good Performance. Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.
- C Range: Satisfactory Performance. Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.
- D range: Marginally meets standards. Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.
- F grade: Course standards not met. Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>, and <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT



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Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.