

Course Outline: LING 201 Introduction to Linguistics

Spring 2010

Instructor: Christine Shea

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Office hours: TBA

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Goal: Introduce students to the scientific study of language. We will learn about the primary areas of linguistics – phonetics, phonology, syntax, morphology and semantics – and discuss them in light of theory and how they relate to language as a human activity.

Because this is an intensive course, please come prepared to work hard and keep up with the readings and homework assignments.

Course requirements:

Your final grade will be based on:

Homework exercises:	5 x 6% each	30%
Midterm exam:		26%
Quick Writes	7 (out of 8) x2% each	14%
Final Exam		30%

Homework provides students with the opportunity to practice the material we covered in class and apply their knowledge. A **hard copy** of the homework is due at the beginning of class, no exceptions. If you are going to arrive late to class, give it to someone to hand in for you or e-mail it to me beforehand and give me the hard copy when you arrive.

Midterm exam will be written in class, around the third week of the semester. It will include multiple choice questions, problem sets and short answer questions.

Quick writes will be given during the first 15 minutes of class. They will consist of short, written assignments based upon the material covered in the previous class. They must be handed in as soon as the 15 minutes are up. You will have access to your notes and some will be carried out in small groups. Some of the quick writes will refer to the readings assigned. The goal of quick writes is to help you think about the material in a slightly different way.

Final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar during the final exam period at the end of the semester. It will be non-cumulative. It will include multiple choice questions, problem sets and short answers.

There will be a tutorial session prior to each exam, outside of class hours. They will be offered at two separate times, for each exam, in order to accommodate as many students as possible.

Readings are to be completed **prior to** the class date on which they are assigned.

Policy regarding absence from exams/tests and late assignments:

Quick Writes: The Quick Writes cannot be made up. I will count 7 Quick Writes out of 8. If you miss more than one, the 2% value of the Quick Write will be transferred to the final exam.

Homework Assignments: Late homework assignments will only be accepted in extremely exceptional circumstances. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor beforehand to request accommodation if the stated deadlines cannot be met. Valid reasons include illness, birth, death, marriage, and religious holidays. Appropriate documentation is required in all such cases. If you miss a homework assignment for a valid and appropriately documented reason, its value will be transferred to the final exam.

Midterm exam: Make-up midterm tests are not an option. There will be absolutely no make-up midterms regardless of the validity or creativity of the reason for missing the test. At the instructor's discretion, students who miss the midterm may have the weighting normally assigned to that item transferred to the final exam if they produce a valid written excuse supported by appropriate documentation. Valid excuses for test absence are birth, death, marriage, and serious illness or injury occurring on the day of the test. The decision whether an excuse is valid is solely at the instructor's discretion. Unexcused absence from a test will result in a grade of zero.

Required text:

William O'Grady & John Archibald, eds. (2009). *Contemporary Linguistic Analysis*. 6th ed. Toronto: Pearson Longman.

Recommended text:

Teresa Vanderweide (2009). *Study Guide to Contemporary Linguistic Analysis*.

Additional materials

Students may wish to consult the Text Enrichment Site for the textbook at:
<http://www.pearsoned.ca/text/ogrady/>

Here you will find extra reading material, sources for the chapters, phonetic files of the sounds for the phonetics chapter, and the answers for the questions at the end of each chapter.

Grading.

Each exam will be assigned a numerical grade, based on the total number of possible points.

The final letter grade will be assigned based on the sum of the total points awarded. The following grading system will be used:

A+ 97-100 B+ 83-87 C+ 68-72 D+ 53-57

A 93-96 B 78-82 C 63-67 D 50-52
A- 88-92 B- 73-77 C- 58-62 F 0-49

(See the University Calendar for interpretation of the letter grades.)

Reappraisal of grades: A student who feels that a piece of graded work has been unfairly graded shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen days of receiving the graded work. No reappraisal is permitted after the fifteen-day period.

STUDENT ADVISING

For any questions regarding the linguistics major or minor, the organization of your program, or the selection of courses, you can see the linguistics undergraduate advisors:

Dr. Suzanne Curtin	SS 842	403-220-7670	ling.undergrad@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Martha McGinnis	SS 828	403-220-6119	

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

1. the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
2. parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
3. the whole work (e.g. an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
4. a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Students are encouraged to work together in preparing homework assignments. However, unless noted otherwise

in writing, students must write up their own answers for submission of the assignment. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Possible penalties for plagiarism include: failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion.

Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of plagiarism is also guilty of academic misconduct.

For more information on academic misconduct and related UofC regulations please consult the Student Misconduct web pages in the on-line University Calendar. These can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Course Schedule

Week	Class	Lecture Topic	Reading	Comments
1	1	Introduction + Overview <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Linguistics 2. What is a language and what makes it uniquely human? 3. Knowledge of Language 	Ch.1	Video: Human Language Series (Part 1)
	2	Phonetics <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basics 2. Consonants 3. IPA Transcription <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. SPELLING ≠ Transcription b. Practice 	Ch. 2 Reading: Ladefoged, pp.1-9 Available on BB	Quick Write 1 In-class discussion of reading
2	1	Phonetics <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vowels 2. Suprasegmentals 3. Transcription Practice 4. <i>Linguistics in the real world:</i> Varieties of English Phonology <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compared to phonetics 2. Contrast <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. phonemes 3. Features and rules 4. Allophones <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. processes 	Ch. 3	Quick Write 2 Phonetic Transcription HW 1 handed out
	2	Phonology <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phonotactics 2. Phonological analysis <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Practice problems 	Ch.3	Quick Write 3: Phonological analysis HW1 due at beginning of class
3	1	Phonology <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Syllables 2. Intonation 3. <i>Linguistics in the real world:</i> What makes an accent? Morphology <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis of Word structure 	Ch.3 Ch. 4 Reading 2 Available on BB	HW 2 Listen to and analyze non-native speech.

	2	Morphology <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Derivation 2. Inflection 3. Word-formation processes 4. Morphophonemics 5. <i>Linguistics in the real world:</i> The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis 		Quick Write 4 HW 3 handed out
4	1	Midterm exam Syntax <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phrase Structure 	Ch.5	Video: The Linguists (Part I) HW 3 due at beginning of class
	2	Syntax <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complements/adjuncts 2. Transformations 		Quick Write 5 HW 4 handed out Video: The Linguists (Part II)
5	1	Syntax <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parameters <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Language universals 2. Drawing trees 3. Sample problems 4. <i>In-class experiment:</i> Sentence processing. Attachment experiment 	Reading 3 Available on BB	HW 4 due at beginning of class
	2	Semantics <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nature of meaning 2. Conceptual system 3. Sentence interpretation 4. <i>In-class experiment:</i> Stroop Experiment 	Ch. 6	Quick Write 6 HW 5 handed out
6	1	Semantics <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lexical meaning 2. Pragmatics <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Politeness b. Irony 		Quick Write 7 Video: Human Language Series