

Linguistics 201: Introduction to Linguistics I

Winter 2009 Course Information & Syllabus

General Information

Instructor: Steve Winters
Social Sciences 814
2500 University Drive NW
Phone: 220-7230
Email: swinters@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: Tue. & Thu. 11:00-12:00, and by appointment.

Teaching Assistant: Keffyalew Gebregziabher
Social Sciences 815
Phone: 220-6122
Email: kggebreg@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: TBD

Note: we are available and willing to meet students outside scheduled office hours by appointment. Please request appointments by email.

Lectures: MWF 11:00-11:50 ICT 121

Course websites: There are two websites for this course.

1. Grades for the course will be posted to a course web page on the Blackboard system. You may access this system by surfing to

<https://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/webapps/login/>

and logging in using your netid and netid password. Students are responsible for keeping track of their grades and informing instructors of possible errors.

2. All lecture notes, homework assignments, quick writes, discussion notes and any other course documents will be posted to a course website that I host on my University webdisk account. You may access this website at:

https://webdisk.ucalgary.ca/~swinters/public_html/ling201/index.html

Course description:

This course is an introduction to the theory and methodology of linguistics, which is the scientific study of language. We will learn about the primary branches and applications of linguistics—phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics—while exploring the complex nature of human language from biological and social perspectives. We will look at knowledge of language as an element of human cognition, and develop the skills necessary to analyze and understand basic linguistic data.

Course Requirements:

Your final grade will be based on:

Homework exercises:	30%
Midterm exam:	30%
Final exam:	30%
Quick Writes	10%

Quick Writes Short problem-solving and writing assignments will be conducted at the beginning of class on most lecture days. The content of the quick write assignment will be based on prior class discussion and readings assigned for that date. These assignments will be given full credit if handed in at the end of the class period. No late submissions will be accepted. Students may miss 4 quick writes over the semester with no penalty. 2 percentage points (2%) will be deducted for every 5 missed quick write assignments.

Homework provides students with an opportunity to apply the knowledge and analytic skills learned during the weekly lectures and discussion sections. Five (5) homeworks will be assigned throughout the course of the semester. Your lowest homework score will be dropped in calculating your final grade. Homeworks are due by the beginning of class on the due date. A missed homework counts as zero points. Late homework will not be accepted for credit.

Exams. There will be both a midterm and a final exam. The final exam will not be cumulative; it will only address the topics and material covered in the second half of the class. Make-up exams will not be given except in the case of dire, documented medical emergencies. Exam locations will be announced during the semester.

Grading scale. Final grades will be assigned according to the scale below. Class participation will be considered in cases of borderline scores. Students can check their scores on homework, exams and quick writes throughout the semester on the Blackboard website (see above).

$97\% \leq A+$	$71 \leq C+ < 75$
$92 \leq A < 97$	$66 \leq C < 71$
$88 \leq A- < 92$	$62 \leq C- < 66$
$84 \leq B+ < 88$	$58 \leq D+ < 62$
$79 \leq B < 84$	$50 \leq D < 58$
$75 \leq B- < 79$	$F < 50$

Please note that I do not round up in calculating final grades.

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

Required text:

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

Recommended Text:

Teresa Vanderweide (2008). *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/ograde/>

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.

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:

- a) 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),
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) 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. Some course assignments call for students to work in groups. 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 offense. 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.

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISOR:

Suzanne Curtin, A 260, 220-7670, ling.undergrad@ucalgary.ca

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.

Course Schedule

Please note that this course schedule represents an *ideal* course of future action and is subject to change. I will post any revisions to the course schedule to the course website.

Wk	Date	Day	Lecture Topic	Reading
1	1/12	M	Introduction + Overview	Ch. 1
	1/14	W	Language and Communication	Ch. 16.1-16.4
	1/16	F	Language and Communication II	Ch. 16.5-16.7
2	1/19	M	Prescriptive and Descriptive Grammar	
	1/21	W	Knowledge of Language	
	1/23	F	Knowledge of Language: Discussion	
3	1/26	M	Morphology I: Word Structure	Ch. 4.1
	1/28	W	Morphology II: Derivations	Ch. 4.2, 4.4
	1/30	F	Morphology: Discussion	
4	2/2	M	Morphology III: Word Formation	Ch. 4.3, 4.5
	2/4	W	Morphology IV: Morphological Analysis	Ch. 4.6
	2/6	F	Morphology: Discussion	
5	2/9	M	Phonetics I: Basic Principles	Ch. 2.1, Ch.3.1
	2/11	W	Phonetics II: Consonants	Ch. 2.2-2.5
	2/13	F	Phonetics: Transcription Practice I	
6	2/16	M	Reading Week: No Classes	
	2/18	W	Reading Week: No Classes	
	2/20	F	Reading Week: No Classes	
7	2/23	M	Phonetics III: Vowels	Ch. 2.6
	2/25	W	Phonetics IV: Suprasegmentals	Ch. 2.8
	2/27	F	Phonetics: Transcription Practice II	Ch. 2.9
8	3/2	M	MID-TERM EXAM	
	3/4	W	Phonology I: Distribution	Ch. 3.2-3.3
	3/6	F	Phonology: Discussion	
9	3/9	M	Phonology II: Features	Ch. 3.5
	3/11	W	Phonology III: Derivations	Ch. 3.6
	3/13	F	Phonology: Discussion	
10	3/16	M	Phonology IV: Phonotactics	Ch. 3.4
	3/18	W	Phonology V: Phonological Processes	
	3/20	F	No Class	
11	3/23	M	Syntax I: Phrase Structure	Ch. 5.1
	3/25	W	Syntax II: Complements	Ch. 5.2
	3/27	F	Syntax: Discussion	
12	3/30	M	Syntax III: Transformations	Ch. 5.3
	4/1	W	Syntax IV: Parameters	Ch. 5.4-5.5
	4/3	F	Syntax: Discussion	
13	4/6	M	Syntax V: Syntax/Semantics	Ch. 6.3
	4/8	W	Semantics I: Sentential Meaning	
	4/10	F	Good Friday: No Class	
14	4/13	M	Semantics II: Lexical Meaning	Ch. 6.1-6.2
	4/15	W	Pragmatics	Ch. 6.4
	4/17	F	Time for catch-up and review	
15			FINAL EXAM Time and Place TBA	

