



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

Linguistics 225  
Varieties of English  
Winter 2021  
MWF 11:00-11:50  
Online and Synchronous, via Zoom

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**INSTRUCTORS' NAMES:** Dennis Storoshenko + Stephen Winters

**TEACHING ASSISTANTS:** Brett Nelson + Andrea Levinstein Rodriguez

**OFFICE HOURS:** WR 12:30-1:30, or by appointment (Storoshenko) + MWF 10-11 (Winters)

**E-MAIL:** [dstorosh@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dstorosh@ucalgary.ca), [swinters@ucalgary.ca](mailto:swinters@ucalgary.ca)

**DESCRIPTION**

This course is a survey and analysis of the varieties of English spoken in the world. In the first half of this course, we will explore this topic through an in-depth analysis of the phonetic and phonological features of the many accents of English. The second half of the course will primarily focus on the morphological and syntactic variation found throughout the English-speaking world. As part of our survey of the varieties of English, students will also learn the basic principles of the study of variation in linguistic science.

**OUTCOMES**

Students who successfully complete this course will improve their proficiency with phonetic transcription by applying the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) to the transcription of different varieties of English. At a phonological level, they will also learn the regular patterns by which one accent of English differs from another. At the morphological level, students will learn variation in word formation strategies and word choice in different varieties of English. This extends into syntax, where variations in sentence formation rules will be explored. This component of the course will develop skills in identifying word categories, and basic concepts of syntactic analysis. Students will also be introduced to the corpus of Global Web-Based English, allowing for the searching of words and sentence patterns in a geographically-sorted database. In addition, students will acquire a better understanding of the origin and nature of sociolinguistic variation in English. They will also be introduced to the historical development of the English language, and the historical relationships which connect different varieties of English with each other.

**REQUIRED READING**

All course readings will be made available on D2L and to the course web page (listed below). The schedule of required readings will be announced as we make our way through the semester.



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#### ASSESSMENT

Your course grade will be based on your performance on a series of quizzes, your summaries and responses to the course readings, and a final term paper.

Quizzes:	40% (best 5 out of 6 8% quizzes)
Course Reading Responses:	40% (best 5 out of 6 8% responses)
Final Term Paper:	20%

#### COURSE NOTES

**Lectures and Class Meetings:** Regular class meetings for this course will be held synchronously, over Zoom. When not speaking, students should have their microphones muted. The best way to get attention in class to ask a question will be to leave “???” in the chat, but when there is an open discussion or a question has been asked to the group, students can feel free to chime in by unmuting. Students should respect each other’s speaking time; the instructors will moderate discussion as needed. As this is a large class, to save on bandwidth, student cameras should be left off.

**Course Web Page:** [uofclinguistics.org/225/](http://uofclinguistics.org/225/)

All lecture notes, handouts and readings will be posted to the course website listed above, as well as to the D2L site for the course. You may check your grades through a link on the course web page throughout the semester, as well. Please check these websites on a regular basis if you are interested in having access to these materials.

**Quizzes.** Bi-weekly quizzes will test your understanding and recall of the material presented in the lectures and in the readings for the course. There will be six (6) quizzes throughout the semester; your lowest quiz score will be dropped from your grade. Quizzes will be administered over D2L. The specific details of how these quizzes will be administered online will be provided as we make our way through the semester. If you are unable to complete the quiz during the scheduled time, contact the instructor by email as soon as possible (ideally in advance, if there is a known conflict, e.g. childcare commitment, medical appointment, etc...), and alternate timing or assessments can be arranged.

**Course Reading Responses.** Every other week, a set of discussion questions will be posted regarding the next week’s readings. Students will need to pick one of these and write a 200-400 word response to their chosen question, to be due on the Monday of the following week. In all, each student will be required to submit six (6) of these responses. These responses will be graded based on the quality and relevance of the response to the question, along with whether they meet the word limit requirements for the assignment. Students may submit these responses through the dropbox tool on D2L. Your lowest score for these responses will be dropped from your course grade.

**Final Term Paper.** By the end of the semester, students will submit a five- to ten-page paper, double-spaced, on a topic of their choosing related to variation in the English language. This can cover any aspect of the course from phonetics to syntax. We will also provide further detail on what is expected from this assignment as we make our way through the semester.



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**Technology Requirements.**

In order to successfully engage in their learning experience for Linguistics 225, students taking this course will need to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware protection 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

Most current laptops and computers have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

**GRADING SCALE**

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

**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**

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. 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."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to



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establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

#### **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**

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.



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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](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate](http://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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto: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>.