



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

LING 455
Typology
Fall 2018

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dennis Ryan Storoshenko

OFFICE LOCATION: CHD 509

OFFICE HOURS: Mon & Thurs 11:30-12:30

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 403-220-6119

E-MAIL: dstorosh@ucalgary.ca

DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to current issues in the debate over linguistic universals, thinking critically about the position that universality arguments have played in linguistic theory over the past century. The course starts with arguments on how different properties of language are meant to relate to each other through logical implication and markedness scales, looking mainly at differences in form at the morphological and syntactic levels. The course then pivots toward a systematic examination of how different semantic concepts are expressed (or not) in world languages

OBJECTIVES

- Familiarize students with concepts of markedness hierarchies and logical implication relationships among different linguistic phenomena
- Illustration of morphosyntactic and semantic phenomena not usually covered in core courses

OUTCOMES

- Students will each adopt a different language for intense study through the duration of the course, ending with a detailed profile of the morphology and syntax of the language, including how various semantic concepts (e.g. modality, negation, agency) are expressed in the language
- Course assignments and exams will also include data from a hypothetical language. Students will be able to make predictions based on the given data of how additional related examples should or should not be formed (e.g. given a language with overt marking for singular, we expect overt marking for plural to exist)

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

- Assignments 20% (5x4% each)
- Final Language Profile 20%
- Class Participation (Including Presentations) 15%
- Midterm Exam 20%
- Final Exam 25%

GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100-97 A = 93-96 A- = 92-88 B+ = 87-83 B = 82-78 B- = 77-73 C+ = 72-68 C = 67-63
C- = 62-58 D+ = 57-53 D = 52-50 F = 49%



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REQUIRED TEXTS

Whaley, Lindsay J. 1997. *Introduction to Typology: The Unity and Diversity of Language*. Thousand Oaks, California: Sage Publications Inc.

Plus a number of book chapters which will be distributed via D2L

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

A number of examples discussed in class will be drawn from:

Payne, Thomas E. 1997. *Describing Morphosyntax: A Guide for Field Linguists*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Not necessary for the course, but a good book to have around for anyone who wants to apply what they get out of the Typology course to a later field methods class.

COURSE NOTES

- All work for this class should be submitted **in .pdf format** using the D2L dropboxes
- The Language Profile is built partly in stages as part of the roughly bi-weekly assignments. The Final Language Profile is half a synthesis of these components and half built around an additional set of questions to answer.
- Class Participation includes four to five (depending on final enrolment numbers to account for time) in-class presentations on key questions relating to the Language Profile. Participation in discussion in class is also counted, as this is a smaller seminar-type class with plenty of stops for group discussion
- Students will be responsible for selecting their own grammar resource from the library and staying on top of necessary renewals to keep the book until the Language Profile is complete.

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 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



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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.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

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 ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)

For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

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.

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



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confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it.

Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

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.

SAFEWALK

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

STUDENT UNION INFORMATION

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.