

# LINGUISTICS 3010

Introduction to Linguistics  
Spring 2013

## Professor:

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## Teaching Assistants:

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**Lectures:** Monday & Wednesday  
Period 4 (10:40-11:30)  
Little Hall 109

**TA Sections:** Fridays  
0074: Period 3 (9:35-10:25), MAT 107 (Joel)  
0078: Period 4 (10:40-11:30), MAT 102 (Joel)  
0315: Period 7 (1:55-2:45), MAT 51 (Luke)  
0394, Period 5 (11:45-12:55), MAT 102 (Joel)  
6156: Period 4 (12:50-1:40), MAT 51 (Luke)  
8415: Period 6 (1:55-2:45), MAT 51 (Luke)

## Description & Goals

Language is a central part of our daily lives. It is how we communicate our thoughts and desires to others – be it our ideas for world peace or what we want for lunch. Yet, we usually take language for granted, using it effortlessly without stopping to think about how it works. So, what exactly *is* language, and how *does* it work?

This course is an introduction to linguistics, the scientific study of language. In order to understand what language is, we will examine a number of topics, including:

- The sound system of language (phonetics and phonology)
- The structure of words and sentences (morphology and syntax)
- The meaning of words and sentences (semantics)
- How language is produced and understood (psycho- and neurolinguistics)
- How children and adult learn language (language acquisition)
- How languages differ over time and situations (diachronic linguistics and sociolinguistics)

We will find that while language is highly complex, it is also systematic and rule-governed. At the end of this course, you should understand what linguists study and have a good understanding of the core concepts in each of the above topics.

## Policies

### Attendance

Attendance will not be taken in the lectures, but there will be information presented in lectures that is not available in the textbook. The TA sections will include sessions in which assigned homework is covered in class, and active participation in these and all TA sections will be reflected as part of your grade (see Assessment & Grading below). Even given the wonders of modern technology, if you do not attend the TA sections you cannot participate in the discussions in them, so it is in your best interest to attend.

## Exams & Quizzes

There will be three exams in this course. These exams will be closed-book. Exams 1 and 2 will cover material since the beginning of the course and Exam 1, respectively. The final exam will cover the entire course, with an emphasis on the topics since Exam 2. The final exam group for this course is 1D, which means our final time will be Wed, 5/1 at 3pm until 5pm. There is a slight possibility that the final exam will be taken prior to the end of classes, in which case it will be given during class time or be taken as a take home. This will be decided late in the semester, so for now please plan as if the final exam is scheduled as above. There will also be pop quizzes given during the Friday TA sections, eleven in total. Because we realize you might be absent from time to time, one of the quizzes will be dropped. This means that if you miss more than one quiz, you lose 1% point from the total average for each quiz missed. There are NO makeups for exams or quizzes for any reasons.

## Assessment & Grading

Your grade will be determined on the basis of grades for exams and assignments, with the following breakdown:

Exam I	20%
Exam II	20%
Final Exam	25%
Quizzes	10%
Homework	15% (5% each)
Research Participation	10%

Grades will be assigned based on the following distribution

	91-100	A	88-90.9	A-	
85-87.9	B+	81-84.9	B	78-80.9	B-
75-77.9	C+	71-74.9	C	68-70.9	C-
65-67.9	D+	61-64.9	D	58-60.9	D-
		Below 58			E

See <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html> for how these grades are translated to grade points.

## Students with Special Needs

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to Dr. Rothman when requesting accommodation.

## Academic Honesty

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. An academic honesty offence is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing information so that one gains academic advantage. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action. Violations of the Honor Code include, but are not limited to: plagiarisms, cheating, bribery, misrepresentation, fabrication, and conspiracy. Such violations may result in the following: lowering of grades, mandatory zero on assignments, redoing assignments, a final failing grade in the course, expulsion from the course, and/or referral to the student-run Honor Court. The Honor Code states: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity." On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment. For more information, refer to: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcode.php>.

### Disagreements and Grade Disputes

If you disagree with a grade or have other grade-related issues, please approach your TA first as soon as possible and try to solve the disagreement together. Please *do not* wait until the end of the semester (when it is really too late) to try to resolve any problems. If the problem cannot be resolved, then contact Dr. Rothman.

If you find yourself struggling with any of the material, please see your TA or Dr. Rothman as soon as you can – **do not wait until it is too late!**

### **Assignments**

On average, you should plan to dedicate roughly 2-3 hours of outside time and effort per hour spent in class. This means you should plan to spend 6-9 hours a week on reading, homework, and other class-related activities for this course.

### Readings

The textbook for the course is:

Mihalicek, V. & C. Wilson (2011). Language Files: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics, 11th ed. Department of Linguistics, Ohio State University.

Reading assignments should be completed *before* the date that they are assigned in the schedule.

### Homework

There are 5 homework assignments in this course. You must complete **THREE** of these assignments. Each homework will be assigned using Sakai (accessible through <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>). The purpose of the homework is to give you a chance to apply what you've learned from the lectures and the textbook and to prepare for questions on the exams. Each will be due at the beginning of the TA Section given in the schedule, and then will be discussed in that section. **NO late assignments will be accepted.** Homework will *not* be accepted via electronic means except under extraordinary circumstances and with prior approval of the TA.

### Research Participation

To encourage awareness of different aspects of linguistics and language research, you are required to participate in 2 hours or 2 studies of language or communication research during the semester. So, you may participate in one 2-hour long study or two studies of any length. A list of experiments that qualify for this credit can be found at <http://users.php.ufl.edu/jjreilly/pool/pool.html>. This site will be updated throughout the semester. After participating in the study or studies, please write a 1.5 – 2 page description of the methods and goals of the study, as well as any comments you have about your experience. You may have to discuss the study with the experimenter in order to complete this! Include a copy of the informed consent form with your write-up when you turn it in. These must be turned in no later than **April 13<sup>th</sup>** for you to receive credit.

If you choose not to participate or do not qualify for any of the studies, you can receive the same amount of course credit for reading a short research article and writing a 1.5 - 2 page synopsis of it. This must be turned in **April 13<sup>th</sup>**. If you choose this option, you must speak with your TA before **March 15<sup>th</sup>** in order to arrange this alternate assignment.

**Schedule of Topics & Assignments – Updated 8.23.2012 (Subject to Change)**

	<b>Monday – Lecture</b>	<b>Wednesday - Lecture</b>	<b>Friday - TA Section</b>
Week 1:	Introduction	Introduction	Introduction Chapter 1
Week 2:	Animal Communication Chapter 14	Phonetics Files 2.0 – 2.4	IPA practice
Week 3:	<b>No Class</b>	Phonetics Files 2.5	<b>Phonetics &amp; Phonology</b> Phonetics practice File 2.8
Week 4:	Phonetics Files 2.6 – 2.7	Phonology Files 3.0-3.4	<b>Homework 1 due</b>
Week 5:	Phonology Files 3.3-3.4	Phonology File 3.5	<b>Phonology Practice</b> File 3.6
Week 6:	<b>EXAM 1</b>	Morphology Files 4.0 – 4.2, 4.4	Morphology practice File 4.6
Week 7:	Morphology File 4.3	Morphology File 4.5	<b>Homework 2 due</b> File 4.6
Week 8:	Syntax Files 5.0 – 5.2	Syntax File 5.3 – 5.4	Syntax practice File 5.6
Week 10:	Syntax File 5.5	Typology [No Reading]	File 5.6
Week 11:	Semantics Files 6.0 – 6.2	Semantics Files 6.3 – 6.4	<b>Homework 3 due</b> File 6.5
Week 12:	<b>EXAM 2</b>	Pragmatics Chapter 7	Pragmatics practice
Week 13:	Child Language Acquisition Files 8.0 – 8.3	Child Language Acquisition Files 8.4 – 8.5	
Week 14:	<b>Review day</b>	Language Processing Files 9.0 – 9.3	Child Lg & Processing practice <b>Homework 4 &amp; Research Participation due</b>
Week 15:	Language Processing Files 9.5 – 9.7	Language Variation Chapter 10	Language and Culture <b>Chapter 11 (esp. File 11.2)</b>
Week 16:	Language Contact Chapter 12	Language Contact Chapter 12	

**Final exam: 5/1 (Wednesday) - Little Hall 109 - 3-5pm**