

LINGUISTICS 3010

Introduction to Linguistics
Spring 2014

Professor

Dr. Wind Cowles

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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 102
 0078: Period 4 (10:40-11:30), MAT 151
 0315: Period 7 (1:55-2:45), MAT 51
 0394: Period 8 (3:00-3:50), MAT 151
 6156: Period 5 (11:45-12:35), MAT 102
 8415: Period 4 (10:40-11:30), MAT 102

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 learn language (language acquisition)
- How languages differ over time and situations

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 2A, which means our final exam time will be Friday, May 2nd, 7:30-9:30am. There will also be three quizzes given during the Friday TA sections, and the TAs reserve the right to give pop quizzes as part of assessing TA Section Preparation (see below).

Assessment & Grading

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

Exam I	16%
Exam II	16%
Final Exam	22%
Quizzes	15%
Homework & Project Overheard	16%
TA Section Participation/Preparation	10%
Research Participation	5%

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	

Please note that a grade of C- is *not* a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit. For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx#hgrades>
<http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>

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. Cowles when requesting accommodation. If you seek accommodation, please contact Dr. Cowles as early in the semester as possible.

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. 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. Cowles.

If you find yourself struggling with any of the material, please see your TA or Dr. Cowles 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 six homework assignments in this course. They 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. Homework will *not* be accepted via electronic means except under extraordinary circumstances and with prior approval of the TA.

Project Overheard: Eavesdropping for science

Studying language means that the world can be our laboratory. For most of the topics in this course, there will be a section on Sakai in which students may post examples of language they hear that are relevant to that topic. More details will be given in class, but to receive full credit, each student must post at least 2 examples by the end of the semester. Once a topic closes, Dr. Cowles will pick one or two examples to talk about in class.

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://slhs.phhp.ufl.edu/student-info/participant-pool-2>. 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 to your TA no later than the Final Exam 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 no later than the Final Exam time. If you choose this option, you must speak with your TA **before April 11th** in order to arrange this alternate assignment.

Make-up Policy

In accordance with UF policy, students will be allowed to make up work that they miss as the result of an excused absence. For absences that can be foreseen (e.g. religious observance, UF-related travel), students **MUST** inform their TA about the absence in advance so that arrangements can be made. For unexpected absences (e.g. illness), students should contact their TA as soon as reasonably possible. For more information about what are considered excused absences, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Schedule of Topics & Assignments – (Subject to Change)

	Monday – Lecture	Wednesday - Lecture	Friday - TA Section
Week 1: 1/6 – 1/10	Introduction	Animal Communication Chapter 14	Animcal Communication Chapter 14
Week 2: 1/13– 1/17	Phonetics Files 2.0 – 2.4	Phonetics Files 2.5	IPA practice
Week 3: 1/20 – 1/24	No Class (MLK Day)	Phonetics Files 2.6 – 2.7	Homework 1 due Phonetics practice; File 2.8
Week 4: 1/27 – 1/31	Phonology Files 3.0-3.2	Phonology Files 3.3-3.4	QUIZ 1 File 2.8
Week 5: 2/3 – 2/7	Phonology File 3.5	Morphology Files 4.0 – 4.2, 4.4	Homework 2 due File 3.6
Week 6: 2/10 – 2/14	Morphology File 4.3	Morphology File 4.5	Morphology practice File 4.6
Week 7: 2/17 – 2/21	EXAM 1	Syntax Files 5.0 – 5.2	Syntax practice
Week 8: 2/24 -2/28	Syntax File 5.3 – 5.4	Syntax File 5.5	Homework 3 due File 5.6
Week 9: 3/3 – 3/7	SPRING BREAK		
Week 10: 3/10– 3/14	Syntax Review & Typology	Typology con't [No Reading]	QUIZ 2
Week 11: 3/17 – 3/21	Semantics Files 6.0 – 6.2	Semantics Files 6.3 – 6.4	Homework 4 due File 6.5
Week 12: 3/24 – 3/28	Pragmatics Chapter 7	Pragmatics Chapter 7	Pragmatics practice
Week 13: 3/31 – 4/4	EXAM 2	Child Lg Acquisition Files 8.0 – 8.3	Child Lg Acquisition practice Homework 5 due
Week 14: 4/7 – 4/11	Child Lg Acquisition Files 8.4 – 8.5	Language Processing Files 9.0 – 9.3	Processing Practice
Week 15: 4/14 – 4/18	Language Processing Files 9.5 – 9.7	Language Variation Chapter 10	QUIZ 3 Homework 6 due
Week 16: 4/21 – 4/23	Language and Culture Chapter 11 (esp. File 11.2)	Language Contact Chapter 12	NO CLASS

Final exam: 5/2 (Friday) - Little Hall 109 – 7:30am – 9:30am