

LING 3010: Introduction to Linguistics

MW4 and F3, 4, 5 or 6

Fall 2017

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Description of the Course

Overview This course is an introductory survey of linguistics, focusing on natural language phenomena, and the methods and findings of linguists seeking to understand them. We will address the following subdomains of linguistics during the course:

Phonetics The physical properties of language forms (e.g. sounds)

Phonology The psychological representation of language forms

Morphology How language forms combine to form words

Syntax How words combine to form phrases and sentences

Semantics The meanings of words, phrases, and sentences

Pragmatics How sentences are used in context

Historical linguistics How languages change over time

Sociolinguistics How language is affected by social context

Language acquisition How languages is acquired and stored in the human brain.

Goals This course is necessarily a broad, shallow survey of linguistics. We will jump around a bit and never spend too much time in one place. You will be introduced to basic linguistics concepts and get an overview of the various subfields of linguistic inquiry that you may pursue in other, more focused classes, whether you are interested in becoming a major, or simply learning more about natural language and how linguists understand it.

The primary goal of the course is to convince you that language is a highly organized system which can be studied using a scientific approach. By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Describe and give examples of the ways in which human languages are alike and how they differ.
- Use and understand basic linguistic terminology.
- Apply the tools of linguistic analysis to the sounds, words, and sentences of a language.
- Learn to approach language as an object of empirical, scientific study.
- Develop general problem-solving skills.

Course Materials

- *Language Files*, Twelfth Edition, Ohio State University Press (required).

All other course materials (additional readings, handouts, exercises, etc.) will be available on CANVAS.

Please note that if you acquire a second-hand copy of a previous edition of the required course textbook, it is your responsibility to check that activities and topics covered in your edition correspond to those in the twelfth edition. **Any omitted or incorrectly submitted homework is the responsibility of the student.**

Evaluation

Graded components Attendance and participation in lectures and section is obligatory. Grades will also be based on homework assignments (seven throughout the semester), and three non-cumulative exams.

- Exams: 40%
- Homework: 35%
- Pop quizzes: 10%
- Section attendance/participation: 10%
- Research participation: 5%

Exams There will be three exams during the semester. The tentative dates are Monday, September 25, Monday, October 30, and Wednesday, December 6. The exams are non-cumulative, but you should be aware that similar types of problems and approaches arise across linguistic sub-disciplines. Exams may contain problem-solving exercises, short-essay questions (e.g. one paragraph) and/or multiple-choice type questions.

Homework There will be 8 homeworks in this class, one roughly every two weeks. You may discuss homework assignments with other students in the class, but you must write up your homeworks independently. **All written work that you turn in must be completely and entirely your own effort.** All homeworks are to be typed, printed and stapled. They must have your name on them, and, if you collaborated with other members of the class, their names should be included at the top of your assignment as well. Only hard-copies are allowed, and no email submissions will be accepted. Homeworks will be handed out on Wednesdays and will be due the following Monday at the beginning of class. Late submissions will not be accepted. Homeworks that are not returned count as having a grade of 0.

Pop-quizzes Instead of a class attendance requirement, a part of your grade will consist of ten *pop quizzes*, assigned at the discretion of the instructor. They will typically comprise a single question or problem given at the start of class. The questions may be about the material already covered in the course, or will ask you to use the same logic as seen in other linguistics problems and apply them to a new area. In the latter cases the quizzes will not be evaluated based on accuracy, but on your understanding of the previously learned approaches to linguistic problems.

Research awareness requirement Linguists conduct research using a variety of methods and in a variety of settings. Some research involves interviews in field situations, and other research involves experimental techniques in a laboratory setting. One requirement for LING 3010 is to complete a research awareness component. You are required to participate in at least 1 hour of language or communication research during the semester. A list of experiments that qualify for this credit can be found at <http://slhs.php.ufl.edu/research/participant-pool-2/>. The site will be updated throughout the semester. After participating in a study or studies, please write a 2 page (double spaced) description of the goals and methods 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 determine this information. Include a copy of the informed consent form with your write-up when you turn it in. Finally, the Linguistics Department holds seminars where UF faculty, graduate students, and visiting scholars present their work. The seminars are generally held on Thursday afternoons around 4pm, and last one hour. The schedule of seminars can be found at <http://lin.ufl.edu/events/colloquia/>. Your instructor will let you know about and additional seminar opportunities throughout the semester. To receive credit, write up to a 2 page (double spaced) summary of the talk.

Grading The following grading scale will be used:

A	93-100	B-	80-83	D+	67-70
A-	90-93	C+	77-80	D	63-67
B+	87-90	C	73-77	D-	60-63
B	83-87	C-	70-73	E	<60

Additional information about the University's grade policies is available at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Other information

Missed or late work; absence from class In general, late work or electronically submitted work will not be accepted. Sometimes, however, absence from class is unavoidable. Acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) will also be excused. If you know that you will be unable to complete any work on time, contact the instructor to make prior arrangements. If you are absent on the day an assignment is due, an electronic copy of a completed assignment is usually acceptable. If, for example, you fall ill the night before a deadline, but have completed your homework, you may e-mail a copy to the instructor (see contact details above). You will have to provide a hard copy later, once you return to class, but will not be penalized. If an unexpected emergency arises, please inform your instructor as soon as possible, and no later than two days after the due date, and keep all records (medical or otherwise) pertaining to the unexpected emergency. The more warning you give, the easier it is to arrive at a solution.

Academic honesty Academic misconduct, including but not limited to cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated. It may result in disciplinary action and failure in the course. The University

has an Honor Code which reads as follows: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” The honor code is accessible online: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>. The bottom line is: “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.”

Copying or sharing any part of your homework assignments in any way, shape, or form is strictly prohibited. For computer work, this includes, but is not limited to, using the same file/document as someone else, using a modified file/document, or copying information between files/documents. No written work may be a joint effort in any way unless explicitly permitted and stated.

Electronics Cell phones are expected to be on silent and stored away. Cell phone use will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal from class. Laptops and tablets are allowed in class for note-taking purposes only. You will be asked to put away your computer if you are discovered using social media sites in class.

Accommodations for students with disabilities Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register online with the Dean of Students Office: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc> The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

Course evaluations Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at:

<https://evaluations.ufl.edu>

Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at:

<https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>

Schedule

Note that the course schedule and contents are subject to change. While every effort will be made to ensure that we stay on track, disruptions can occasionally arise. The instructor will advise the students in a timely manner of any changes to the course schedule.

A complete, tentative schedule is shown below. Reading assignments for each week are listed.

Wk.	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Readings</i>
1	August 21 Basics I	August 23 Basics II	LF: 1.0 – 1.5, Kenner 1977
2	August 28 Phonetics I	August 30 Phonetics II	LF: 2.0 – 2.3
3	September 4 Labor Day	September 6 Phonetics III	LF: 2.4 –2.5
4	September 11 Phonology I	September 13 Phonology II	LF: 3.0 – 3.3
5	September 18 Phonology III	September 20 Morphology I	LF: 3.5, LF: 4.1
6	September 25 Exam 1	September 27 Morphology II	LF: 4.2
7	October 2 Morphology III	October 4 Syntax I	LF: 4.5, 4.4 , Bobaljik 2008
8	October 9 Syntax II	October 11 Syntax III	LF: 5.1, 5.4, Carnie 2002
9	October 16 Syntax IV	October 18 Semantics I	LF: 5.3, 5.5; 6.3
10	October 23 Semantics II	October 25 Pragmatics I	LF 6.4; 7.0-7.2
11	October 30 Exam 2	November 1 Pragmatics II	LF 7.3, 7.5 Grice 1975
12	November 6 Language change I	November 8 Language change II	LF 13.0-13.2, 13.7
13	November 13 Language variation	November 15 Language variation	LF 10.0-10.5
14	November 20 Language acquisition	November 22 Thanksgiving	LF 8.0-8.2
15	November 27 Language acquisition	November 29 Language and the brain	LF 8.2-8.4, LF 9.0-9.2
16	December 4 Overview	December 6 Exam 3	