

# Syllabus LIN-3010

Fall 2019

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## Course description

### 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 sub-domains 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

**Psycholinguistics** Relation between linguistic behaviour and psychological processes

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

**Historical Linguistics** How languages change over time

**Sociolinguistics** How language is affected by social context

## Goals

This course is necessarily a broad, shallow survey of linguistics. You will be introduced to basic linguistics concepts and get an overview of the various sub-fields 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.

## 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** Grades will be based on homework assignments (seven throughout the semester), and three noncumulative exams.

Exams: 50

Homework: 35

Pop quizzes: 10

Research participation: 5

**Exams:** There will be three exams during the semester and are non-cumulative. 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. 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. 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.

**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.

**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

**Research awareness requirement:** 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 writeup when you turn it in. Fi-

nally, 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.

### **Other information**

**Absence from class:** In general, late 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. 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.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Readings</b>
1		Aug 21 Introduction	Aug 23 Basics I	LF: 1.0-1.5
2	Aug 26 Basic II	Aug 28 Phonetics I	Aug 30 Phonetics II	LF: 2.0-2.3
3	Sept 2 (No Class)	Sept 4 Phonetics III	Sept 6 Phonetics IV	LF: 2.4, 2.5
4	Sept 9 Phonology I	Sept 11 Phonology II	Sept 13 Phonology III	LF: 3.0, 3.1
5	Sept 16 Phonology IV	Sept 18 Phonology V	Sept 20 Morphology I	LF: 3.2-3.5, 4.0
6	Sept 23 Morphology II	Sept 25 Review	<b>Sept 27</b> <b>Exam I</b>	LF: 4.1, 4.2
7	Sept 30 Morphology III	Oct 2 Morphology IV	Oct 4 Syntax I	LF: 4.4, 4.5, 5.0
8	Oct 7 Syntax II	Oct 9 Syntax III	Oct 11 Syntax IV	LF: 5.1-5.4
9	Oct 14 Syntax V	Oct 16 Psycholinguistics I	Oct 18 Psycholinguistics II	LF: 5.5, 9.0-9.6
10	Oct 21 Semantics I	Oct 23 Semantics II	Oct 25 Review	LF: 6.0, 6.3
11	<b>Oct 28</b> <b>Exam II</b>	Oct 30 Semantics III	Nov 1 Pragmatics I	LF: 6.4, 7.0
12	Nov 4 Pragmatics II	Nov 6 Pragmatics III	Nov 8 Field Methods	LF: 7.1-7.5
13	Nov 11 (No Class)	Nov 13 Field Methods	Nov 15 Historical I	LF: 13.0-13.4
14	Nov 18 Historical II	Nov 20 Language Acq I	Nov 22 Language Acq II	LF: 13.7, 8.0-8.5
15	Nov 25 Socioling I	Nov 27 (No Class)	Nov 29 (No Class)	LF: 10 and 11
16	Dec 2 Review	Dec 4 TBD	<b>Dec 6</b> <b>Exam III</b>	