

Introduction to Linguistics

LIN3010

Fall 2019 Syllabus

MWF Period 4 (10:40 am – 11:30 am)

Room: AND 0032

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Office hours: MWF Period 5 (11:45 am -12:35 pm) or by appointment

Course Description: This course is an overview and introduction to the field of linguistics. Linguistics is the scientific study of human language and how it works. This course will provide an introduction to linguistics and its various subfields including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and psycholinguistics. After this course, the student should have the knowledge necessary to continue taking other linguistics courses including the subsequent courses, Sounds of Human Language (LIN3201) and Structure of Human Language (LIN3460). The following topics will be covered in this course (subject to change if necessary, especially for the later topics).

- **UNIT 1**
- **What is Linguistics:** How is linguistics defined?
- **Phonetics:** Study of sounds of human language from acoustic perspective
- **Phonology:** Study of the sounds of human language from a mental representation perspective
- **UNIT 2**
- **Morphology:** Study of words and their structure
- **Syntax:** Study of sentence structure
- **UNIT 3**
- **Semantics:** Study of word meaning
- **Pragmatics:** Study of language use in context
- **Sociolinguistics:** Study of language and its social connections
- **UNIT 4**
- **Psycholinguistics:** Study of language processes in the brain
- **Animal Communication vs. Human Language:** Do they differ and if so, how?
- **Historical Linguistics:** Study of historical processes affecting language. Also studies extinct languages.

Course Objectives: The goal of the course is to provide an introduction and overview of the field of linguistics as a whole. In order to do this, the core subfields of linguistics will be introduced during the course with a discussion of some of their fundamental parts. Thus, the student should gain a basic knowledge of the core subfields of linguistics and what they study as well as being familiar with some of the core principles and concepts of these subfields. This course serves as the preparatory course for other linguistics courses that build on this fundamental knowledge. The course will not be able to discuss every subfield of linguistics, but the core subfields as well as some others will be discussed.

Course Grading:

The final grade for the course will come from the following assignments:

Exams: 4 x 12% = 48%

Homework: 7 x 6% = 42%

Online Quizzes: 5 x 2% = 10%

Exams: There will be 4 exams throughout the course, corresponding to each unit. The course is divided into four units and thus there will be an exam immediately following each unit. The exams are not cumulative, and each will cover the material for that unit. There is no final exam. The fourth exam will simply cover the fourth unit.

Homework: There will be 7 homework assignments throughout the course. They will correspond to some of the subfields that are discussed. The assignments will be provided on Canvas and should be typed and submitted on Canvas. Students may discuss the homework with each other, but every student must write up their answers entirely on their own and in their own wording.

Quizzes: There will be 5 short online quizzes that will be available on Canvas. These quizzes will be primarily in the first half of the semester. They will cover topics covered in class and will be multiple choice. They will be timed, however the time allotted will be generous and so time should not be a major factor.

Grading Scale: The grading scale used will be as follows:

A: 93-100 **A-:** 90-93

B+: 87-90 **B:** 83-87 **B-:** 80-83

C+: 77-80 **C:** 73-77 **C-:** 70-73

D+: 67-70 **D:** 63-67 **D-:** 60-63

E: less than 60

If a student's grade is exactly on a number between two grades (e.g. 93.0), they will receive the higher grade.

Course materials: We will use the Language Files book for this class. It should be the 12th edition.

Course Policies:

Attendance: Attendance will only be taken during approximately the first week. It will not count as part of the course grade.

Technology: Students are more than welcome to take notes on their laptops if they wish. Students should make sure their phones are on silent during the class time. If a student needs to text or use their phone during class, they should do so in a way that does not disturb other students.

Make-up Work: If a student will need to make up an exam, they must notify the instructor prior to the exam in order to schedule a make-up exam. Make-up exams should only be for documented medical reasons, university obligations (e.g a university scheduled trip) or other unavoidable reasons (e.g jury duty). Any other reasons will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Late work: Quizzes or homeworks that are turned in late will receive a 5% deduction from the grade unless there is a documented, legitimate reason for a late submission. Any homework (or quiz) that is not turned in will receive a grade of 0.

Course Schedule (potentially subject to change):

Week	Topic	Assignments Due
Week 1: 8/21-8/23	Unit 1: Course introduction. What is Linguistics?	
Week 2: 8/26-8/30	Phonetics	Q 1
Week 3: 9/4-9/6 9/2: Labor Day	Phonetics, Phonology	HW 1, Q 2
Week 4: 9/9-9/13	Phonology, Exam 1	HW 2, Exam 1
Week 5: 9/16-9/20	Unit 2: Morphology	Q 3
Week 6: 9/23-9/27	Morphology, Syntax	HW 3
Week 7: 9/30-10/2 10/4: Homecoming	Syntax	Q 4, HW 4
Week 8: 10/7-10/11	Exam 2, Unit 3: Semantics	Exam 2
Week 9: 10/14-10/18	Semantics, Pragmatics	Q 5, HW 5
Week 10: 10/21-10/25	Pragmatics, Sociolinguistics	
Week 11: 10/28-11/1	Sociolinguistics, Exam 3	HW 6, Exam 3
Week 12: 11/4-11/8	Unit 4: Psycholinguistics	
Week 13: 11/13-11/15 11/11: Veteran's Day	Animal Comm. vs Human Language	HW 7
Week 14: 11/18-11/22	Historical Linguistics	

Week 15: 11/25 11/27-11/30: Thanksgiving	Continuing in linguistics	
Week 16: 12/2-12/4	Review, Exam 4	Exam 4

Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Honor Code: UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. 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.” The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.