LIN 3010 Introduction to Linguistics
T 2 - 3/Th 3, AND 019

Instructor
Eric Potsdam
offices: 4121 and 4131C Turlington Hall
office phone: 294-7456
office hours: T 4, W 5 – 6, and by appointment
e-mail: potsdam@ufl.edu

Course Description
Athchomar chomakea! This course is an investigation of constructed languages, like Dothraki. We will use these invented languages as the gateway to our exploration of linguistics, the scientific study of language. We will approach language as a system and will investigate the elements of that system: the sounds, the lexicon, word formation, sentence structure, meaning, how languages change, and writing systems. Students will have the opportunity to construct their own languages and delve into the grammar, context, and use of existing invented languages. *Ha' Sop!* ("Let's eat!" in Klingon, of course).

Objectives
- Survey the history, purpose, and goals of constructed languages
- See both natural and constructed language as highly organized systems
- Understand the structural ingredients of the language system: its phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and lexicon
- Construct a rudimentary conlang

Prerequisites
There are no prerequisites for the course.

Course Materials
The textbooks for the course are
o Peterson, David J. 2015. *The art of language invention: From horse-lords to dark elves, the words behind world-building*. New York: Penguin Books.

o Department of Linguistics, The Ohio State University. 2016. *Language Files: Materials for an introduction to language and linguistics*, 12th edition. Columbus: The Ohio State University Press. (available at UF Bookstore under LIN3010)

Other materials—readings, homework assignments, handouts, lecture slides—will be available on Canvas, http://lss.at.ufl.edu.

Requirements
- homeworks   28%
- conlanging & presentations   28%
- exam 1   12%
- exam 2   12%
- final project   20%

Homeworks. Homeworks will consist of short exercises and problems to allow you to check your understanding of the material and apply it to new situations.

Conlanging. In addition to regular homework problems, you will be developing your own conlang. The project will continue throughout the semester. Although this is inherently creative, it must also be anchored in sound linguistic principles and the material that we discuss in class. You will present some aspects of the assignments that relate to your conlang in class.

Exams. There will be two exams focused on terminology, concepts, and basic linguistic data analysis. They are tentatively scheduled for week 6 (February 12 – 14) and week 11 (March 26 – 28).

Final project. The final project will ask you to compile the various pieces of your conlang into a grammar. You will also be required to include a brief text example, lexicon, and discussion of the grammar. Alternative projects are possible, after consultation with the instructor, and may include

1.   Development of some aspect of your conlang's grammar in more detail
2.   Development of your conlang's vocabulary in some domain
3.   Development of your conlang in some social situation (greetings, swearing, etc.)
4.   A substantive text and translation
5.   A research project on conlangs relating to history, philosophy, literature, etc.
6.   Overview of an existing conlang

Reading assignments. There will be regular reading assignments, in addition to the textbook, which are to be completed before class.

Attendance and *active participation*. Attendance is not a part of your grade but you are expected to be present, on time, and prepared for the entire class period.

Grading
The course grading scale is as follows:

A	93.3 - 100	B	83.3 – 86.6	C	73.3 – 76.6	D	63.3 – 66.6
A-	90 – 93.2	B-	80 – 83.2	C-	70 – 73.2	D-	60 – 63.2
B+	86.7 – 89.9	C+	76.7 – 79.9	D+	66.7 – 69.9	E	< 60

Further information about UF's grading policies and the calculation of grade point averages is at https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx.

Other
Missed/Late Work. You should assume that late work will not be accepted. All requests for exceptions due to illness, religious obligations, known emergencies, or other extenuating circumstances should be made before the exam date or homework due date.

Academic honesty. Academic misconduct, including but not limited to cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated. It may result in disciplinary action and an E for 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". You can read all about it at https://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." This includes relying on another student's work from a previous instantiation of this course. Do not use others' work in this class.

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 acknowledged.

Accommodations for students with disabilities. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register 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.

Evaluations. Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations 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/.

Campus resources. The following health and wellness resources are available to students:
U Matter, We Care, umatter@ufl.edu, 392-1575
Counseling & Wellness Center, http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx, 392-1575
University Police Department, http://www.police.ufl.edu, 392-1111

Schedule

The following schedule is a rough estimate of the course's progress. Please see the Syllabus page on Canvas and class announcements for the most up-to-date schedule. *Peterson* refers to the textbook (Peterson 2015). Chapter subsections are referred to be name rather than page number in case you have an e-version. X – Y refers to section X up to but not including section Y. *LF* refers to *Language Files,* 12th edition. Other indicated readings will be on Canvas. *Episode numbers* refer to Youtube videos on David Peterson's youtube channel, www.youtube.com/c/DavidPetersonAoLI.

WEEK	DATE	CORE TOPICS	READINGS
1	Jan. 8 – 10	langs, conlangs, and conlanging *Conlanging: The art of crafting tongues* film	Peterson Introduction episodes 0, 1 Fromkin ch. 1 optional: Tolkien 2016
2	15 – 17	language & thought world building	LF 11.2, Fromkin ch. 1:22-26 episode 22 optional: Pullum 1989, Okrent 2009 ch. 18
3	22 – 24	phonetics	Peterson ch. 1 (Intro – Phonology) LF 2.1-2.3
4	29 – 31		Peterson ch. 1 (Phonology – Allophony, Intonation – Sign Lg Articulation, The Sound of Dothraki case study) episodes 21, 26 LF 2.4-2.5
5	Feb. 5 – 7	writing systems	LF 3.1 (exc. 3.1.2), 3.4 Peterson ch. 4
6	12 – 14	phonology, **exam 1**	Peterson ch. 1 (Allophony) LF 3.2-3.3
7	19 – 21	morphology	episodes 3, 14 Peterson ch. 2 (Intro – Nominal Inflection, Derivation) LF 4.1-4.3 optional: Fromkin ch. 2
8	26 – 28		episodes 20, 11, 18, 28 Peterson ch. 2 (Nominal Inflection – Word Order, Irathient Nouns case study)
	Mar. 5 – 7	Spring Break	
9	Mar. 12 – 14	syntax	Peterson ch. 2 (Word Order) Fromkin ch. 3
10	19 – 21		
11	26 – 28	**exam 2**	
12	Apr. 2 – 4	language change	episodes 8, 9, 23, 24, 27 Peterson ch. 3
13	9 – 11	case studies	TBD
14	16 – 18	final project presentations	
15	23		

Optional readings

Adams, Michael. 2011. *From Elvish to Klingon: Exploring invented languages*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Okrent, Arika. 2010. *In the land of invented languages: Adventures in linguistic creativity, madness, and genius*. New York: Spiegel & Grau.

Tolkien, J. R. R. 2016. *A secret vice*. London: HarperCollins.

Lists of constructed languages

Okrent, Arika. 2009. Appendix A of *In the land of invented languages*. New York: Spiegel& Grau. (http://www.landofinventedlanguages.com/index.php?page=languages)

Rogers, Stephen D. 2011. *A dictionary of made-up languages: From Adûnaic to Elvish, Zaum to Klingon—The Anwa (Real) Origins of Invented Lexicons*. Avon, MA: Adams Media.

web resources

David Peterson's youtube channel, https://www.youtube.com/c/DavidPetersonAoLI

Conlanging: The art of crafting tongues film, https://itunes.apple.com/US/movie/id1277307753, also available through Amazon prime

Language Creation Society, conlang.org

Fiat Lingua, archive of conlang articles, fiatlingua.org

Conlanger's library, library.conlang.org (out of date)

World Atlas of Language Structures (WALS), wals.info

linguistics glossary: glossary.sil.org

Conlangery podcast: conlangery.com

conlang FrathWiki, http://www.frathwiki.com

software for conlanging: http://www.frathwiki.com/Software_tools_for_conlanging

Omniglot: http://www.omniglot.com/links/conlangs.htm

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/conlangs

Reddit Conlangs: https://www.reddit.com/r/conlangs/

Conlang Wikia: http://conlang.wikia.com/wiki/Portal:Main

Conlang Wikibook: https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Conlang

language generator: https://www.vulgarlang.com

podcasts, and so much more!