

LIN 3460: Structure of Human Language

Class Meetings

section	097C	2891
day/period	MWF 3	MWF 4
location	AND 0019	AND 0019
final exam	12/12/18	12/11/18

Facilitators

instructor Christopher Muntzner
 office Turlington B132
 office hours MF period 5; W period 2
 email cmuntzne@ufl.edu

grader Noah Mitchell
 email mitchell.ns@ufl.edu

Course Description & Prerequisites

This course explores two branches of linguistics, morphology (word formation) and syntax (sentence structure) across the world's languages. We will analyze linguistic phenomena to uncover the similarities and differences across the world's languages. Course material focuses on the necessary tools for linguists to discover such latent patterns through vigorous problem-solving—finding patterns in extensive language data. This course requires the successful completion of LIN 3010 (Introduction to Linguistics).

Objectives

- respect the similarities and differences of the world's languages
- approach language from an empirical perspective (formal linguistics)
- attain competence in morphological and syntactic terminology
- develop problem-solving skills

Course Materials

Available on e-Learning via Canvas:

Crowley, Terry, John Lynch, Jeff Siegel, & Julie Piau. 1995. *The Design of Language: An Introduction to Descriptive Linguistics*. Auckland, New Zealand: Longman. (out of print)

Available at the Reitz Union bookstore:

Tallerman, Maggie. 2011. *Understanding Syntax*. Third Edition. London: Hodder Education.

All other necessary course materials (syllabus, handouts, homework problems, etc.) will be available on e-Learning via Canvas: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu>.

Requirements

There will be **six homework assignments** throughout the semester, with the lowest score dropped. Homework assignments are to be submitted via Canvas on their respective due dates. Hard copy work will not be accepted unless told otherwise. Late work will not be accepted.

Throughout the semester you will be working in *groups* investigating the syntax and morphology of a particular language. This **language project** will be broken into **four parts**, which will be turned in on their respective due dates and graded separately. Towards the end of the semester, each group will be presenting one part of their overall project. More information on this project will be forthcoming.

There will be **three exams** spaced throughout the semester. They are cumulative; yet an understanding of the more complex concepts follows from understanding the foundational concepts. The **final exam** (exam 3) will be from **12:30-2:30** on your course section's given date found at the top of the syllabus.

Class Participation & Attendance:

Class participation is essential to the success of this course. You are unlikely to succeed in this course without coming to class, paying attention, and participating. There will **seven (pop) quizzes** throughout the semester, with the two lowest scores dropped. You may not know in advance on what dates the quizzes will be taking place, therefore attending class will be pivotal to your success.

Attendance will be taken every class (except days in red found on the schedule). You will receive 2 points for coming to class, 1 point for arriving late (after attendance has been taken), and 0 points for missing class. The day of the final exam is worth 4 attendance points, for a total of 80 possible attendance points. Your total score for attendance will be taken over 80 to determine your final *attendance* grade. Excused absences will not count for nor against your final attendance grade.

Grading

Your overall grade will be determined as follows:

exams	42%	(14% each)
homework	25%	(5% each, lowest dropped of 6)
language project	17%	(2% for part 1, and 5% each, parts 2, 3 & 4)
presentations	6%	
pop quizzes	5%	(1% each, 2 lowest dropped of 7)
attendance	5%	

The following grading scale will be used to determine course grades:

	A	93.3-100	A-	90-93.2
B+	B	83.3-86.6	B-	80-83.2
C+	C	73.3-76.6	C-	70-73.2
D+	D	63.3-66.6	D-	60-63.2
	E	< 60		

The following website contains information on UF's current method for calculating GPAs: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Missed/Late Work

Late work or electronically submitted work will not be accepted. Late submissions/missed exams due to illness, religious obligations, unexpected emergencies, or other extenuating circumstances must be made before the exam date or assignment due date. If you are aware that you will be unable to complete any work on time, contact me *prior* to the due date. *No* extra credit will be offered throughout this course.

University Honesty Policy

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://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conducthonor-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.

Counseling and Wellness Center

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Accommodations for 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.

Schedule

wk	M	W	F	Core Topics	Readings	Due Dates	
1		8/22	8/24	introduction; the language system			
2	8/27	8/29	8/31	architecture of the grammar; introduction to morphology	DOL: 1-10, 43-47 DOL: 189-192		
3	9/3	9/5	9/7	morphological analysis,; grammatical vs. lexical morphemes	DOL: 230-232 DOL: 252-271	LP1	9/7
4	9/10	9/12	9/14	nominal morphological categories	DOL: 192-213, 309-321 US: 2.3 46-56, 6.3	HW1	9/14
5	9/17	9/19	9/21	verbal morphological categories	DOL: 213-229, 322-329 US: 2.2 39-46, 6.4		
6	9/24	9/26	9/28	morphological variation		HW2	9/28
7	10/1	10/3	10/5	allomorphy	DOL: 272-304	EX1	10/5
8	10/8	10/10	10/12	morphological processes	DOL: 232-252	LP2	10/12
9	10/15	10/17	10/19	introduction to syntax, word classes	DOL: 10-18 US: 1	HW3	10/19
10	10/22	10/24	10/26	clause and clause types, dependent clauses	US: 2, 3, 4	HW4	10/26
11	10/29	10/31	11/2	complements vs. adjuncts, basic word order, phrase structure	US: 2, 3, 4	LP3	11/2
12	11/5	11/7	11/9	constituent structure trees, phrase structure: cross- linguistically	US: 6.1, 6.2 DOL: 18-37	EX2	11/9
13	11/12	11/14	11/16	constituency; syntactic operations	US: 7, 8	HW5	11/16
14	11/19	11/21	11/23	thanksgiving break		HW6	11/23
15	11/16	11/28	11/30	project presentations		LP4	11/30
16	12/3	12/5	12/7	review; exam		EX3	12/5

DOL = Design of Language; US = Understanding Syntax

Attendance will not be taken on days in *red*.