# Structure of Human Language

## LIN3460

Fall 2021 Syllabus

Time: T 5th-6th Period (11:45 AM – 1:40 PM), H 6th Period (12:50 PM – 1:40 PM)

Room: Rolfs Hall 205

Instructor: Caleb Ewing

Email: cewing@ufl.edu

Office: Turlington B132

Office Hours: Tuesdays/Thursdays 9:30 AM – 11 AM or by appointment. I am also available to meet during office hours time over Zoom if you prefer.

> https://ufl.zoom.us/j/99127405468?pwd=Znk1cmNmcWJmS2JKUldOSHNSYW9jdz09

> Meeting ID: 991 2740 5468

> Passcode: 815979

Teaching Assistant: Alexandrine Dunlap

Email: a.dunlap@ufl.edu

**COVID-19 Policy**: This class will follow University of Florida policy on matters related to COVID-19.

**Course Description**: This course focuses on the morphological and syntactic structure of human language. By taking a more in-depth look at morphology and syntax than is taken in LIN3010, the fundamental concepts will be discussed in the context of human language in general, with illustrations from individual languages forming the basis of the data. This course also provides the foundation so students can go on to take LIN4400 (Introduction to Morphology) and LIN4500 (Introduction to Syntax).

**Course Objectives**: The goal of the course is to familiarize students with the basics of morphology and syntax. This includes discussion of terminology, relevant theoretical issues and how morphology and syntax work in various languages. Students will gain an understanding of different types of morphology, allomorphy, morphological processes, basic clause structure, constituents and more. This should prepare students well to go on and take more in-depth courses in both morphology and syntax.

**Course Prerequisites**: LIN3010 (Introduction to Linguistics)

**Course Grading**:

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

**Take-Home Exams**: 2 x 15% = 30%

**Homework**: 6 x 7% = 42%

**Choosing LP**: 4%

**Language Project**: 3 x 8% = 24%

Take-Home Exams: The course will have 2 take-home exams. These will be given at scheduled times throughout the semester. Because the exams are take-home they are thus open note, however students will have a limited amount of time (~2 days) to complete them. The exams will be submitted through Canvas. Students should <u>not</u> consult with other students when completing the exams. The first exam will be a midterm exam and the second exam will be a final exam, however it will not be cumulative in any major way and will not be given in finals week.

Homework: There will be six homework assignments distributed throughout the course. These will be submitted through Canvas. Students are welcome to discuss the homework with other classmates but should write up their answers entirely on their own.

Choosing LP: As part of the course, students will investigate the morphology and syntax of a particular language. There will be a 10-point assignment to assist students in choosing which language they will work on. More details will be provided in class.

Language Project: For the language project, each student will be investigating the morphology and syntax of a particular language. The language project will be divided into 3 parts. These assignments will also be turned in via Canvas.

**Grading Scale**: The grading scale is taken from a typical UF scale.

**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

Note: The numbers overlap here in the sense that, for example, the lower range of an A is 93 and the upper range of A- is also 93. Obviously, if a student's grade is right on a dividing line they will receive the higher grade. In other words, if a student had 93.0 exactly, they would get an A, not an A-.

**Course Materials**: There is no textbook that is required for this class.

**Course Policies:**

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

Late Work: All assignments should be turned in by the due date and time specified unless there is a legitimate reason for a late submission. Late assignments (that have not been approved to be late) will receive a 10% deduction from the assignment grade. Any assignment that has not been turned in will receive a 0.

**Course Schedule:**

| Week | Topic | Assignments Due |
|---|---|---|
| Week 1: 8/23-8/27 | Intro, basics of morphology, terminology | |
| Week 2: 8/30-9/3 | Morphological analysis | Choosing LP |
| Week 3: 9/6-9/10 | Nominal morphology | HW 1 |
| Week 4: 9/13-9/17 | Verbal morphology | LP 1 |
| Week 5: 9/20-9/24 | Derivational morphology | HW 2 |
| Week 6: 9/27-8/1 | Morphological variation | |
| Week 7: 10/4-10/8 | Morphological processes | **Exam 1** |
| Week 8: 10/11-10/15 | Allomorphy | LP 2 |
| Week 9: 10/18-10/22 | Basics of syntax, lexical categories | HW 3 |
| Week 10: 10/25-10/29 | Basic phrase structure, heads/dependents | HW 4 |
| Week 11: 11/1-11/5 | Syntactic trees and structure | LP 3 |
| Week 12: 11/8-11/12 **11/11 Veteran's Day, No Class** | Basic clause structure, types of clauses | |
| Week 13: 11/15-11/19 | Complements vs. adjuncts, constituents | HW 5 |
| Week 14: 11/22-11/26 **11/25 Thanksgiving, No Class** | Syntactic operations | |
| Week 15: 11/29-12/3 | Syntactic Typology, Linguistic Theory | HW 6 |
| Week 16: 12/6-12/10 | Wrapping up | **Exam 2** |
| Week 17: 12/13-12/17 | Finals Week – No Class | |

**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.

**Class Recording**: Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code."