

**LIN6402: Morphology**  
MWF4  
Spring 2019

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## Course Description

Morphology is the subfield of linguistics that deals with the internal structure of words. The goal of morphological research is to describe and explain the word structure patterns found across the world's languages. This course will introduce students to the basic phenomena of morphological structure, using data from a diverse array of languages. This course will also be an exercise in theory building as we build an increasingly sophisticated and explanatory theory of morphological structure through duration of the class.

We will address questions such as:

- What are 'words' and what is their status in linguistics?
- How do word structure and sentence structure relate to one another?
- What's the relationship between the structure of words and how they're pronounced?
- Do we need a distinct theory of word formation?

Students who complete this course will be able to:

- Analyze complex words into their meaningful parts, both in English and unfamiliar languages
- Use common vocabulary to discuss morphological categories
- Distinguish and formalize regular morphological and phonological grammar rules.
- Discuss the broad issues of words structure in the context of the overall architecture of mental grammar.

**Textbook** Booi, Geert. 2012. *The Grammar of Words. An Introduction to Linguistic Morphology*. Oxford Textbooks in Linguistics. OUP

Additional readings will be available on Canvas.

**Lectures and other course material** The core course material will be provided through in-class lectures; discussion is encouraged and I will frequently ask questions of the class. Attending class and following the discussion closely is essential to success in this course. Just reading the textbook will not be enough. I will use slides and/or handouts to facilitate discussion, but **the slides will not be made available**. You should be prepared to take notes.

## Evaluation

### Graded components

- Homeworks: 30%
- Exam 1: 20%
- Exam 2: 20%
- Paper presentation: 5%
- Research paper: 25% (20% paper, 5% presentation)

**Homework** Seven homeworks will be assigned over the course of the semester, one approximately every two weeks. You are encouraged to discuss homeworks with each other, but you must write up your solutions entirely on your own and indicate students you worked with.

Homeworks must be typed and turned in on Canvas. We will discuss the homeworks in class on the day they are due; therefore, late work will not be accepted unless there is a documented emergency and/or prior arrangements have been made.

**Exams** There will be **two exams**. The first in-class exam will be around Friday, March 1 (week 8). The second in-class exam will be on Wednesday, April 24, the last day of the class. Both in-class exams will take approximately one class period. The exams will also have a take-home portion. You may not work with others on the take-home exams or discuss them with other sentient beings in any way. (It is very easy to know when this has occurred and all such instances will be treated as instances of academic dishonesty, in accordance with the University of Florida Honor Code. The policy is available at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php>.)

**Paper presentation** There will be a number of additional readings. Each student must lead the discussion on one paper. This involves creating a handout for the paper. Paper discussions will take place on Fridays the week they are assigned.

**Research paper** Graduate students must complete an original analysis project. This involves collecting data on a language you are not familiar with from a native speaker and writing up an analysis of some aspect of its morphological structure. You must identify the language and speaker yourself and collect and analyze your own data. You may not consult books or grammars or website on the language, but you may consult the literature in the development of your analysis. Your analysis must be written up as a paper (expected to be between 10-15 pages or so), presenting your data and analysis. Projects must be pre-approved by week 7. You will give 20-minute presentations on your project in week 15.

**Grading** The following grading scale will be used:

A	93-100	B-	80-82	D+	67-769
A-	90-92	C+	77-79	D	63-68
B+	87-89	C	73-78	D-	60-62
B	83-86	C-	70-72	E	<60

Additional information about the University's grade policies is available at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

## Other information

**Missed or late work; absence from class** You should assume that late work will not be accepted. All requests for exceptions due to illness, religious obligations, unexpected emergencies, or other extenuating circumstances must 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 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/scr/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.

**Laptops/Cell phones** Laptops may not be used in class unless you have a condition which requires it. Cell phone use is not permitted. Research has shown use of cell phones and laptops to take notes in class reduce retention rates not only for the user, but for others in the class as well.

**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.

## Tentative schedule

Note that the course schedule and contents are subject to change. A tentative schedule is below.

**Week 1 (Jan 7–11): Course overview. Introduction, background discussion.**

*Readings:* Booij: ch 1 & 2

**Week 2 (Jan 14–18): Word formation. Derivation.**

*Readings:* Booij: ch 3

*Assignments:* HW1 due

**Week 3 (Jan 23–25): Derivation cont.**

*Readings:* Harley 2008

**Week 4 (Jan 28–Feb 1): Compounding.**

*Readings:* Booij: ch 4; Harley 2009

*Assignments:* HW2 due

**Week 5 (Feb 4–8): Argument Structure.**

*Readings:* Booij: ch 9

**Week 6 (Feb 11–15): Phonology and Morphology**

*Readings:* Booij: ch 7; Kiparsky 1983

*Assignments:* HW3 due

**Week 7 (Feb 18–22): Rule ordering and the cycle.**

*Readings:* Booij & Rubach 1987

**Week 8 (Feb 25–Mar 1): Readjustment rules. Exam 1 in class**

*Assignments:* HW4 due

**Week 9 (Mar 4–8): Spring Break**

**Week 10 (Mar 11–15): Inflection**

*Readings:* Booij: ch 5 & 6

**Week 11 (Mar 18–22): Inflection cont.**

*Readings:* Halle & Marantz 1993

*Assignments:* HW5 due

**Week 12 (Mar 25–29): “Exotic” word formation**

*Readings:* McCarthy 1981

**Week 13 (Apr 1–5): Typology and morphology. Morphology and psycholinguistics.**

*Readings:* Booij: ch 10

*Assignments:* HW6 due

**Week 14 (Apr 8–12): Acquisition of morphology**

*Readings:* Kroff et al. 2017

**Week 15 (Apr 15–19): Student presentations**

**Week 16 (Apr 22–24): Overview. Exam 2 in class.**