

Tentative Syllabus for LING 101: Introduction to Language and Linguistics I

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Office Hours: by appointment

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Class Hours: Mon, 13:00-15:00; Wed, 13:00-15:00

Class Room: Mon, M 2230; Wed, cinema? **(not EF 03)**

Course Description

The aim of this course is to introduce you to the fundamental questions, as well as basic principles and methods in the study of Language. It gives a selective overview of the field of Linguistics. We will discuss what it means to know a language, what kinds of rules and principles govern languages, and many interesting ways in which languages differ from each other.

Course Structure and Grading

- There will be two assignments, two in-class quizzes, two mid terms, and one final exam.
- Three hours of lectures and one problem session each week.
- Attendance and participation are expected. Please participate in class. - It'll be more fun.
- Please feel free to ask questions anytime during the lecture (within reasonable bounds).
- Please switch off your mobile phone, or at least set it to silent mode.

Grading

10% Assignments
50% Midterms (25% each)
40% Finals

Exam Dates

- Mid-term exam 1: Fr, 23.03, at 17:00-18:00
- Mid-term exam 2: Fr, 04.05, at 17:00-18:00

Course Policy

- Students are responsible for making sure that there are no conflicts in their midterm dates. **Please make sure of that before enrolling in this class.**
- **Assignments are due at the beginning of the lecture.** Later submissions will not be accepted. If, for some reason, you can't make it to the lecture, please send me a scan or photo of your **entire** assignment, and submit a hardcopy later.
- Please switch off your phones, or set them silent mode.
- Don't cheat and try to learn stuff.

Study Resources

1. Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., and Hyams, N. (2014) *An Introduction to Language*. Harcourt Brace College Publishers. **(Tenth edition!)**
 2. Resources mentioned in class, and linked to in the lecture slides.
 3. Lecture slides, but only as a help in recalling the lecture, not as self-contained study material. (*Please note: The slides will be updated before the lecture. The current version is not final.*)
- The slides are *not* the primary study material. *Really!*

Tentative Schedule

Week 1, 05.02 - 09.02 Introduction

Mon Introduction

key concepts

Language, arbitrary relationship between sound and meaning, creativity, discreteness, displacement

Wed Introduction Chapter 1

Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, linguistic determinism, linguistic relativism

Week 2, 12.02 - 16.02 Phonetics

Mon Phonetics Chapter 5, pp. 189-197	key concepts Phonetics (articulatory, acoustic, auditory), vocal tract, segmentation, categorization, sound-to-grapheme relationship, articulators (active and passive)
Wed Phonetics Chapter 5, pp. 197-208	Nasality, voicing, place of articulation: bilabial, labiodental, interdental, alveolar, palatal, velar, glottal; manner of articulation: (nasal and oral) stops, fricatives, approximants (glides and liquids); vowels, vowel features: height, backness, roundedness, tenseness, monophthongs, diphthongs
Week 3, 19.02 - 23.02 Phonetics, Phonology	
Mon Phonetics Chapter 5, pp. 208-217	key concepts vowel length, pitch, nasality, stress (length, pitch, loudness), prosodic (<i>suprasegmental</i>) features, tones: register tones, contour tones, phonetic classes: continuants–non-continuants, obstruents–sonorants, consonantal–non-consonantal
Wed Phonology Chapter 6, pp. 230-235	difference between phonology and phonetics, nasalization and aspiration in English, phones and phonemes, allophones, phonetic and phonemic notation, wide and narrow transcription, (near-)minimal pairs, complementary distribution
Week 4, 26.02 - 02.03 Phonology	
Mon Phonology Chapter 6, pp. 236-252	key concepts phonemes and allophones, complementary distribution, phonetic environments of allophones, derivational rules, types of derivational rules: assimilation, dissimilation, segment insertion, and segment deletion
Wed Phonology Chapter 6, pp. 258-265	distinctive and non-distinctive features, feature representations of speech sounds, natural classes, obstruents–sonorants, continuants–non-continuants, sibilants, consonantal sounds, complementary distribution, overlapping distribution
Week 5, 05.03 - 09.03 Morphology	

			key concepts
Mon	Morphology		syntactic categories, open class, closed class, function words, content words, derivation, morphemes: free & bound, affix: prefix, suffix, infix, circumfix, roots and stems, bound roots, blocking
Wed	Morphology	QUIZ 1	structure of words, ambiguities, (exocentric and endocentric) compounds, headedness
Week 6, 12.03 - 16.03 Morphology			
			key concepts
Mon	Morphology	Chapter 2, pp. 61-66	compounding
Wed	Morphology	Chapter 2, pp. 46-54, 56-60	morphological processes: inflection, derivation, compounding
Week 7, 19.03 - 23.03 Morphology			
			key concepts
Mon	Morphology	Chapter 2	complementary distribution, allomorphy and allomorphs, phonological and suppletive allomorphs, stem and affix suppletion, morphological analysis
Wed	Syntax	Chapter 3	
Thursday, 22.03	***** MIDTERM I at 17:00 *****		
Week 8, 26.03 - 30.03 Morphology/Syntax			
			key concepts
Mon	Morphology	Chapter 2	
Wed	Syntax	Chapter 3	meaningfulness, grammaticality, and acceptability; competence and performance; phrases; phrase structure rules; constituency tests: stand alone, replacement, displacement, coordination
Week 9, 02.04 - 06.04 Syntax			
			key concepts
Mon	Syntax	Chapter 3	constituency; syntactic classes, phrase headedness and phrase types, tests for phrase type
Wed	Syntax	Chapter 3	ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE
Week 10, 09.04 - 13.04 Syntax			
			key concepts
Mon	Syntax	Chapter 3	
Wed	Syntax	Chapter 3	—

Week 11, 16.04 - 20.04 – *spring break* –

Week 12, 23.04 - 27.04 Syntax/Semantics

key concepts

Mon — —

Wed Syntax/Semantics Chapter 3/4 **QUIZ 2**

Week 13, 30.04 - 04.05 Semantics

key concepts

Mon Semantics Chapter 4 aspects of meaning, semantic ambiguity, truth conditions, entailment, equivalence, contradiction

Wed Semantics Chapter 4

Thursday, 03.05 ***** **MIDTERM II at 17:00** *****

Week 14, 07.05 - 11.05 Semantics

key concepts

Mon Semantics Chapter 4

Wed Semantics **ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE**