

Attention!

This is a representative syllabus.

The syllabus for the course you are enrolled in will likely be different.

Please refer to your instructor's syllabus for more information on specific requirements for a given semester.

Linguistics 2000
Introduction to Language in the Humanities
Spring 2016

Instructor: XXX

Email: XXX

Office: Ohio Stadium East,
1961 Tuttle Park Place

Mailbox: 110L

Office Phone: XXX

Office Hours: XXX

The Department of Linguistics is currently located at the East Side of the Ohio Stadium, just north of the RPAC. The main entrance is between Gates 22 and 24 on the 1st Floor.

Additional comments, questions, or concerns can be addressed to:

TA Coordinator: Dr. Hope Dawson

Office: 109C

Email: dawson.165@osu.edu

Office Phone: (614) 292-5420

Required Textbooks:

- *Language Files*, 11th Edition. Ed. by Vedrana Mihalicek and Christin Wilson. 2011. The Ohio State University Department of Linguistics. OSU Press.
- *Language Myths*. Ed. by Laurie Bauer and Peter Trudgill. 1998. Penguin.

Course Website: www.carmen.osu.edu

An electronic version of this syllabus can be found on the course website. PDF copies of assignments and other relevant materials will also be made available here.

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the study of language as a whole. We will discuss the different components of language, and how these components form the systematicity we see in language. In addition, we will discuss how language interacts with society and how language changes over time.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should (1) know the basic levels of language structure and how these levels showcase the systematicity of language; (2) be able to use and apply the appropriate vocabulary and techniques when analyzing linguistic data; (3) have a basic understanding of the systematic ways in which languages can differ; and (4) be able to critically assess commonly-held beliefs about language.

GE Information: Cultures and Ideas

Goals:

Students evaluate significant cultural phenomena and ideas in order to develop capacities for aesthetic and historical response and judgment, and interpretation and evaluation.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Students analyze and interpret major forms of human thought, culture, and expression.
2. Students evaluate how ideas influence the character of human beliefs, the perception of reality, and the norms which guide human behavior.

This class meets these requirements by teaching students to analyze language as a systematic way of communication as well as by guiding students to think critically about commonly-held beliefs regarding language.

Grading:

Participation	10%	Attendance/ active participation in class.
Linguistics Outside the Classroom (LOC)	5%	2 x 2.5% (see separate LOC handout)
Homework	40%	8 x 5%
Quizzes	10%	2 x 5%
Midterm Exam	15%	
Final Exam	20%	

Grades will be assigned using the following scale, and will be rounded to two decimal points (e.g. 89.49 is a B+, 89.50 is an A-):

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	E
100-93	92-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-67	66-60	Below 60

Attendance and Participation: Regular and prompt attendance is necessary, both for learning, and for a full participation grade. If you must miss a class or part of a class, let me know *in writing* as soon as possible.

Students with 4 unexcused absences will lose half of their participation points. Students with 6 unexcused absences will lose all of their participation points.

All students are encouraged to ask questions and participate in class discussion. In addition, I expect you to be respectful and courteous. This includes: coming to class on time, being attentive in class, turning off your cell phones, only using laptops to take notes, and not packing up your things until class is over.

- **Linguistics Outside the Classroom (LOC):** You must participate in two activities and complete accompanying questionnaires. Each activity may involve participating in an experiment, or attending a talk. For more details, see the LOC requirement handout that will be handed out on the second day of class.

- **Homework:** There will be eight homework assignments throughout the semester, each worth 5% of your final grade. Assignments must be submitted by the beginning of the class on the due day. Assignments can be handed in to me in class (as a hard copy), or to my mailbox in room 110L at the Stadium (see above) before class begins, or in the Carmen dropbox before class begins. They may be handwritten or typed. Electronic submission is permitted only through the Carmen dropbox. *Do NOT email your homework.*

If you are submitting your homework electronically via Carmen, please make sure it is a PDF (Acrobat reader) file. No other file types will be accepted. Conversion from word to PDF can be done via Microsoft Word. There are also numerous free PDF converter sites on the Internet (<http://www.freepdfconvert.com>).

NO late assignments will be accepted. Any hard-copy assignments submitted after I collect them in class are considered late and will not be accepted.

- **Quizzes:** There will be two in-class, closed book quizzes in the semester. Each quiz is worth 5% of your overall grade. The quizzes are designed to serve as a diagnostic of your knowledge of the material. Quizzes cannot be made up, except with a serious, documented reason (e.g. serious illness, family emergency, etc.).
- **Midterm and Final Exam:** There will be one in-class midterm exam (**Thursday Feb. 25th 9:30 – 10:55 am**) and one final exam (**Thursday, April 21st, 9:35 – 10:55 am**) this semester. All the exams will be closed-book and will cover the topics discussed in the tentative schedule below. Exams cannot be made up except with a serious, documented reason (e.g. serious illness, family emergency, etc.).
- **Readings:** Each week, readings are assigned from *Language Files* and *Language Myths*. Keep in mind that anything that is covered in the readings may appear in the tests. You should do the assigned reading before coming to class, take notes, and come prepared with questions. The class will be more informative and enjoyable if everyone comes to class prepared. You are not required to bring *Language Files* or *Language Myths*, unless specifically told to do so.

GENERAL POLICIES:

- **COLLABORATION:** Collaboration is allowed and encouraged. You may discuss the course content with your peers, and work with others to figure out homework assignments, but you **MUST** tell me whom you worked with and include their names on the write-up, and the final product must be your own. In other words, the final write-up must be done **individually** and **express your own thoughts**. Copying someone else's homework, or allowing someone to copy your homework, is academic misconduct. See below.
- **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:** OSU's policy on academic honesty and plagiarism is available at http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp. You are responsible for knowing this code of conduct and adhering to it. I am required by the university to report any suspected case of academic misconduct to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. Should you have any questions about this issue or are unsure as to whether a certain action constitutes a violation of this code, please consult me.
- **STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, please contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment, we can discuss the course format, anticipate your needs and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need to accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, I encourage you to do so at (614) 292-3307 or www.ods.ohio-state.edu.

Tentative Course Schedule

LF = Language Files **LM** = Language Myths **LOC** = Linguistics Outside the Classroom

- All readings and assignments are due on the day they are listed at 9:35 am.
- I reserve the right to change the schedule at any time during this semester, within reasonable limits (e.g. exam dates will not change). Changes will be announced in class and posted on Carmen.

Week	Date	Topics	Readings	Other
Week 1	1/12 (T)	Course Overview; What is linguistics? What is a language?		
	1/14 (R)	What is a language? (cont.); Linguistic Relativism	LF 1.2, 1.4, 11.2	
Week 2	1/19 (T)	Introduction and the IPA	LF 2.1 LM 18	
	1/21 (R)	Consonants	LF 2.2 – 2.2.4; 2.2.7; MoA Handout	
Week 3	1/26 (T)	Vowels	LF 2.3	DUE: HW #1
	1/28 (R)	Non-English Phonetics and Suprasegmentals; IPA Practice	LF 2.4 – 2.5	
Week 4	2/2 (T)	Introduction; Phonemes and Allophones	LF 3.1-3.2 LM 20	DUE: HW #2
	2/4 (R)	Natural Classes and Phonological Rules	LF 3.3.1 – 3.3.3	Quiz 1
Week 5	2/9 (T)	Phonological Rules and Analyses	LF 3.3.4 – 3.5	
	2/11 (R)	Phonological Rules and Analyses (cont.)		DUE: HW #3
Week 6	2/16 (T)	Words and their Structure	LF 4.1 LM 16	
	2/18 (R)	Morphological Processes and Typology	LF 4.2 – 4.3	DUE: HW #4
Week 7	2/23 (T)	Review		
	2/25 (R)	Midterm - Introduction, Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology		
Week 8	3/1 (T)	Basics and Syntactic Properties	LF 5.1 – 5.2	
	3/3 (R)	Syntactic Categories	LF 5.4	DUE: 1st LOC
Week 9	3/8 (T)	Phrase Structure Rules	LF 5.5	DUE: HW #5
	3/10 (R)	Phrase Structure Rules		
SPRING BREAK: MON. 3/14–FRI. 3/18				
Week 10	3/22 (T)	Lexical Semantics	LF 6.1 – 6.2	DUE: HW #6
	3/24 (R)	Compositional Semantics	LF 6.3 – 6.4.1	

Week 11	3/29	(T)	Context and Gricean Maxims	LF 7.1 – 7.2	
	3/31	(R)	Language Varieties/ Regional Variation	LF 10.1 – 10.3 LM 17	DUE: HW #7
Week 12	4/5	(T)	Regional Variation (cont.) and Societal Factors	LF 10.3 – 10.4	
	4/7	(R)	Language Contact and Borrowings	LF 12.1 – 12.2	Quiz 2
Week 13	4/12	(T)	Introduction to Language Change	LF 13.0 – 13.2 LM 1	
	4/14	(R)	Sound Change	LF 13.3	DUE: HW #8
Week 14	4/19	(T)	Review		
	4/21	(R)	Final Exam		DUE: 2nd LOC