

Linguistics 1: Introduction to the Study of Language

SYLLABUS

The goal of linguistics is to make generalizations about how natural language works and to apply these generalizations to the study of cognition (cognitive science), the study of the brain (psychology), and the study of artificial intelligence (computer science).

The goal of this class is to expose you to some of the ways in which languages are different and similar, and to the lessons these similarities and differences can teach us.

Administrative info

Lecture info: Tuesday/Thursday 9:30AM – 10:45AM, BROAD 2160E
course website is at <http://ccle.ucla.edu>

Section info:

number	section	day	time	location	TA
253002201	1A	Thursday	1:00 – 1:50	PUB AFF 1256	YunJung Kim
253002202	1B	Thursday	1:00 – 1:50	PUB AFF 2284	Benjamin George
253002203	1C	Thursday	1:00 – 1:50	PUB AFF 2242	Jinhee Lee
253002204	1D	Thursday	2:00 – 2:50	PUB AFF 2242	Benjamin George
253002205	1E	Thursday	2:00 – 2:50	BUNCHE 3178	Jae-Eun Park
253002206	1F	Thursday	2:00 – 2:50	BUNCHE 3150	Jennifer Fischer
253002207	1G	Thursday	3:00 – 3:50	BUNCHE 3178	Jae-Eun Park
253002208	1H	Thursday	3:00 – 3:50	BUNCHE 3117	Jennifer Fischer
253002209	1I	Thursday	4:00 – 4:50	BUNCHE 1221A	Jae-Eun Park
253002210	1J	Thursday	4:00 – 4:50	HAINES A44	Benjamin George
253002211	1K	Friday	9:00 – 9:50	HAINES A6	Jinhee Lee
253002212	1L	Friday	9:00 – 9:50	HAINES A82	YunJung Kim
253002213	1M	Friday	10:00 – 10:50	HAINES A24	Jinhee Lee
253002214	1N	Friday	10:00 – 10:50	ROYCE 162	YunJung Kim
253002215	1O	Friday	10:00 – 10:50	HUMANTS A48	Bahiyih Hardacre
253002216	1P	Thursday	3:00 – 3:50	PUB AFF 2242	Bahiyih Hardacre
253002217	1Q	Thursday	4:00 – 4:50	BUNCHE 3156	Jennifer Fischer
253002218	1R	Friday	9:00 – 9:50	HAINES A74	Bahiyih Hardacre

Textbook: *An Introduction to Language* by Victoria Fromkin, Robert Rodman and Nina Hyams. I will be using the most recent edition, the EIGHTH EDITION. If you choose to use an earlier edition, you are responsible for translating the reading assignments I give to your particular edition. An alternative to buying the textbook is using the copies on course reserve in the library.

Helpful/fun supplementary reading: Steven Pinker's *The Language Instinct* (HarperCollins; any edition)

Helpful/fun websites: <http://www.ethnologue.com> (An encyclopedia of languages of the world)
<http://wals.info> (The World Atlas of Language Structures)
<http://itre.cis.upenn.edu/~myl/languagelog> (The Language Log)

My office hours (your TAs also have office hours): Wednesday 11:00 – 1:00, 3103L Campbell Hall

Final exam: Monday, December 8, 11:30AM – 2:30PM

Grading: 40% homework; 30% mid-term; 30% final

The mid-term and final will be closed-book, in-class exams. I will however allow you to use a 'cheat sheet': you may write anything on ONE SIDE of a 8½x11" piece of paper and use it to help you on the exam.

Course outline

Readings listed under a particular day *must be done before* that particular day.

Thursday Sept 25	lecture, "Introduction to language" reading, ∅
Tuesday Sept 30	lecture, "Acquiring the human language" reading, most of Ch 1, <i>What is Language?</i> (pp. 3 – 25) and Ch 8 <i>Language Acquisition</i> (pp. 313 – 350)
Thursday Oct 2	lecture, "Rules of language: morphology (pt. 1)" reading, some of Ch 3, <i>Morphology: The Words of Language</i> (pp. 71 – 83)
Tuesday Oct 7	HOMEWORK 1 DUE lecture, "Rules of language: morphology (pt. 2)" reading, the rest of Ch 3, <i>Morphology: The Words of Language</i> (pp. 83 – 106)
Thursday Oct 9	lecture, "Language and the Brain" reading, Ch 2, <i>Brain and Language</i> (pp. 36 – 63)
Tuesday Oct 14	HOMEWORK 2 DUE lecture, "Language and cognition" reading, Ch 1, "Language and Thought" (pp. 25 – 28), and "Linguistic Relativity," <i>Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science</i> . File on course website.
Thursday Oct 16	lecture, "Rules of language: phonetics" reading, Ch 6, <i>Phonetics: The Sounds of Language</i> (pp. 221 – 250)
Tuesday Oct 21	HOMEWORK 3 DUE lecture, "Rules of language: phonology (pt. 1)" reading, some of Ch 7, <i>Phonology: The Sound Patterns of Language</i> (pp. 255 – 273)
Thursday Oct 23	lecture, "Rules of language: phonology (pt. 2)" reading, the rest of Ch 7, <i>Phonology: The Sound Patterns of Language</i> (pp. 273 – 299)
Tuesday Oct 28	MID-TERM
Thursday Oct 30	lecture, "Rules of language: syntax (pt. 1)" reading, some of Ch 4, <i>Syntax: The Sentence Patterns of Language</i> (pp. 115 – 150)
Tuesday Nov 4	HOMEWORK 4 DUE lecture, "Rules of language: syntax (pt. 2)" reading, the rest of Ch 4, <i>Syntax: The Sentence Patterns of Language</i> (pp. 150 – 163)
Thursday Nov 6	lecture, "Psycholinguistics and processing" reading, Ch 9, <i>Language Processing: Humans and Computers</i> (pp. 363 – 400)
Tuesday Nov 11	NO CLASS (Veterans' Day)
Thursday Nov 13	lecture, "Sign language"; reading, "A Linguistic Big Bang," http://www.nytimes.com/library/magazine/home/19991024mag-sign-language.html
Tuesday Nov 18	HOMEWORK 5 DUE lecture, "Rules of language: semantics (pt. 1)" reading, some of Ch 5, <i>The Meaning of Language</i> (pp. 173 – 186)
Thursday Nov 20	lecture, "Rules of language: semantics (pt. 2)" reading, some more of Ch 5, <i>The Meaning of Language</i> (pp. 186 – 199)
Tuesday Nov 25	HOMEWORK 6 DUE lecture, "Rules of language: Pragmatics" reading, the rest of Ch 5, <i>The Meaning of Language</i> (pp. 199 – 209)
Thursday Nov 27	NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)
Tuesday Dec 2	HOMEWORK 7 DUE lecture, "Rules of language: diachronic shifts" reading, Ch 11, <i>Language Change: The Syllables of Time</i> (pp. 461 – 497)
Thursday Dec 4	lecture, "Exam review" reading, ∅
Monday Dec 8	FINAL EXAM, 11:30 – 2:30

Policies

- I do not give make-up exams. If you cannot complete an exam, you will fail the course. This means you should take extra precautions to arrive on time for the mid-term and final.
- I do not accept late homework assignments. If you think that you will not be able to complete a homework assignment to the best of your ability, talk to your TA about it *in advance*.
- I **do** offer extra credit. (See the attached sheet.) The easiest way to do this is by volunteering in psycholinguistics experiments! But this must be done well in advance of the final exam.
- I do not base part of your grade on class participation. It should be clear to you that you will learn things by attending the lectures and discussion sections (things which will help you succeed on the homework and exams). If you choose not to attend the lectures or discussion sections, you do so at the risk of your success in the class.

If you do choose to come to class, it's important that you behave in a respectful way to your classmates and teachers.

- That said, I do not post my lecture notes or slides and will not give them out. If you plan on being absent, you should make friends with a classmate in the hopes that they will share their notes.
- I have very clear policies on plagiarism (and so does the university).
<http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/integrity.html>

You may discuss your homework assignments with others, but you must complete them **in your own words**. If we receive identical homework, we will give failing grades to each student on that homework. During exams: absolutely no sharing of ideas. This means – at least – no talking, and no cellphone-checking.

I ask students to sign copies of course syllabi to verify that they have read its content. In your discussion sections, during the second week of class, your TA will provide extra copies for you to sign and hand back in. If you do not attend section this second week of class, please turn in a signed copy of this syllabus with your first homework assignment.

your name

your section

your signature

the date