

Linguistics 20A: Language and Linguistics

Instructor

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Office Hours: Wednesday 2:30-3:30, Thursday 2:00-3:00

Teaching Assistants

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Office Hours: Monday 11-12, Thurs 10-11

Moodle website contains the primary course materials

<http://archserve.id.ucsb.edu/moodle/moodle/>

Page down to “Linguistics 20A”, click on this, and it will take you to a page where you can create an account and log in. The password will be “lingiscool”.

****NOTE**** You will *not* need to purchase a book or a reader for this course. Instead your costs will be in print cartridges or printing out materials in the lab.

Goals of the course

- To increase student awareness about many aspects of language, including
 - The centrality of language to human interaction
 - The structured and systematic nature of language
 - The functional basis for linguistic structures
 - The function of language in creating and maintaining social structures
 - The relationship between language and culture
 - The nature of language change
- To give students a sense of how languages are similar and how they are different
- To provide a basic introduction to each of the primary fields in linguistics, the principles underlying them, and the methodologies required to analyze linguistic data sets for the purpose of determining structural properties
- To repeatedly illustrate the primary theme of this course: linguistic structures are shaped by the function of language as a tool for human communication

A bit on logistics

The Moodle website will be a critical resource for this course. You should check it often for updates. It will contain the course materials, such as:

- PowerPoint Slides (print out before lectures)
- Readings
- Homework assignments
- Interactive tutorials
- Quizzes
- Study Guides
- News

See the separate handout (also available on Moodle site) for a downloads and other hints.

Honors Students

There will be an honors section for this class, limited to 12 students; students enrolled in the Honors Program will be given priority for enrollment. The honors section will be from 9-9:50 and Fridays and will meet in South Hall 3521. This section is required *in addition* to attendance at the regular section. The honors section will have its own Moodle page; log on to Ling20H.

Course requirements

Homework assignments	45% of final grade
Quiz on phonetics	5% of final grade
Midterm exam	15% of final grade
Final exam	35% of final grade

Assignment of letter grades is based on a cumulative point-score only (i.e. ,you will not receive letter grades on individual assignments or exams).

Course Policies

- *Academic dishonesty* is a serious offense and will not be tolerated. Anyone caught cheating (including copying of homework) will be given a zero for that assignment. The use of electronic devices during quizzes and exams is strictly prohibited and will result in failure on the exam.
- *Homework assignments* will be either submitted on-line or submitted on paper in class. On-line assignments must be completed by the specified date; paper assignments will be due in class on a specified date. If you have questions about the homework, be sure to ask them in section or bring them to office hours. The homework assignments are a crucial element of the course, and will facilitate understanding of the lecture material.
- *Late homework assignments* will be penalized 10% for each day late.
- The *phonetics quiz* will be a 15 minute quiz on anatomy and on symbols for transcribing English. The *midterm* will cover all the material through the first half of the syntax unit. The *final* will be cumulative.
- *Students with disabilities*: If you are a student with a disability and would like to discuss special academic accommodations, please contact me during my office hours.

Getting help

We are in linguistics because we are all fascinated by the nature and complexity of language and enjoy working with linguistic data and speakers of languages. We realize, however, that linguistic analysis may be difficult and the concepts new and foreign. We are dedicated to helping you learn the material. As long as you show evidence of trying, we will do whatever we can to assist you. Our office hours are distributed at different times throughout the week so that each student should be able to make it to at least one office hour. Please feel free to see either TA or the instructor. Don't be shy!

Tentative Course Schedule of Lecture Topics

<i>Week</i>	MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
1 9/25-9/29			Introduction and Orientation
2 10/2-10/6	Introduction and Orientation	Phonetics	Phonetics
3 10/9-10/14	Phonetics	Phonology	Phonology
4 10/16-10/20	Phonology	Phonology	Morphology
5 10/23-10/27	Morphology	Morphology	Syntax
6 10/30-11/3	Syntax	Syntax	Syntax
7 11/6-11/10	Historical Linguistics	MIDTERM	<i>VETERANS DAY</i>
8 11/13-11/17	Historical Linguistics	Discourse	Discourse
9 11/20-11/24	Semantics	Semantics	<i>THANKSGIVING</i>
10 11/27-12/1	Pragmatics	Pragmatics	Language and Society
11 12/4-12/8	Language and Society	Language and Society	Language and Society; Review
<i>Final Exam: Tuesday December 12th 8-11 a.m.</i>			