

Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics
The Florida State University
Introduction to Linguistics (LIN 3041) Fall 2007
MWF 1:25-2:15 Diffenbaugh 214

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Required reading:

O'Grady, William, John Archibald, and Mark Aronoff, Janie Rees-Miller (eds.). 2005. *Contemporary linguistics*. (5th Edition). New York: St. Martin's Press. [CL]

Course objectives:

This course is an introduction to the science of linguistics and its subcomponents of syntax, semantics, morphology, phonetics, phonology, neurolinguistics, psycholinguistics, first and second language acquisition and sociolinguistics.

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Describe and give examples of ways in which human languages are all alike and how they are different.
- Use basic terminology of linguistics to describe language phenomena.
- Apply the tools of linguistic analysis to the sounds, words, and sentences of a language.
- Discuss important research findings concerning acquisition of first and second languages.
- Describe how and where language is processed in the brain.
- Describe differing uses of language in its social context.
- Evaluate popular mythology about language and grammar.

Distribution of final grade:

<i>Participation</i>	10%
<i>Homework</i>	25%
<i>Chapter Exams (4)</i>	40%
<i>Final Project</i>	10%
<i>Final Exam</i>	15%

Participation:

Ten percent of your grade is based on participation. The following factors will be considered in assessing your final score for participation: your active participation during class lectures and during in-class activities, your knowledge of assigned reading materials (evaluated via short in-class writing tasks and pop-quizzes) and your effort in maintaining a positive learning environment for all. For example, please be courteous and turn off your cell phones upon entering class. **There will be no make-up for missed pop-quizzes or in-class activities.**

Homework:

You will have homework everyday in this class. In the event of an absence, it will be your responsibility to find out what homework was assigned. Class notes will be posted to Blackboard after each class. You will need to complete the homework problems assigned from the textbook and be prepared to discuss them the following class period. Students will be responsible for presenting solutions to homework problems on the board while other students comment and offer alternative solutions or explanations. You may consult with other students about the problems and work together to solve them, although you *must* write your answers separately. While assignments need not be typed, they must be legible. Do not embed your homework answers within your notes for the course; complete homework on a separate sheet of paper. All of the homework problems assigned for the particular chapters covered on the exam will be collected on the day of the exam. Please bring your homework stapled together and in an acceptable format. **Late homework will not be accepted.** Chapter homework problem sets will be evaluated on completeness. At other times throughout the semester you may be given short writing assignments and additional problems not in the textbook to complete and hand in to be graded for accuracy, content, and completeness.

Chapter exams:

After every one or two chapters, you will have a chapter exam. This exam will evaluate your knowledge of linguistic terms and concepts as well as your ability to apply those tools to linguistic problems. The exams will be primarily, although not exclusively, based on class discussions of the readings and homework. **There are no make-up exams.**

Final Project: Students will conduct a linguistics analysis in which they will apply what we've learned in the course to a unique speech sample. More specific

details will be given at a later date. The final project will be due on the last day of class. **No late projects will be accepted.**

Final Exam: There will be a *cumulative* final exam given on FRIDAY, December 14th from 7:30-9:30 a.m. No final exams will be given early and there are no make-up exams.

Attendance:

You will be allowed up to three (3) absences with no questions asked. Please use them wisely. Excused absences include: (a) participation in a scheduled event as a member of a university-sponsored athletic/scholastic team, (official absence form is required), (b) religious holidays, (c) accident or illness, (accident report or doctor's note required), (c) death in the immediate family. Late arrivals to class or early departures from class of more than 10 minutes will be counted as an absence.

Students are responsible for making up all work missed due to absences. In the event of an absence on a exam day, students should contact the instructor via email as soon as possible (and preferably before the exam) to make alternative arrangements. Excuses for absences must be submitted within two (2) days of the time of return.

Students may not make up graded work for unexcused absences. Moreover, each unexcused absence after the first three will reduce the final grade--calculated on a scale of 100%--by two (2) percentage points.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should:

1. Register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC)
2. Bring a letter to the instructor from the SDRC indicating you need academic accommodations. This should be done within the first week of class.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

Academic Honor System:

“The Academic Honor System of the Florida State University is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility to: (1) Uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student’s own work, (2) Refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the academic community, and (3) Foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of the University community.” For further information you may wish to refer to the “Academic Honor System” in the FSU General Bulletin and in the FSU Student Handbook.

Grading scale:

A	94-100	C-	70-73
A-	90-93	D+	67-69
B+	87-89	D	64-66
B	84-86	D-	60-63
B-	80-83	F	0-59
C+	77-79		
C	74-76		

Syllabus (Dates and Topics may change)

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	Problems (CL)
1	Aug 27	Introduction		
	Aug 29	A Language Instinct?		
	Aug 31	Language: A Preview	1-12	1-6
2	Sept 3	No Class		
	Sept 5	Categories and Structures	151-162	
	Sept 7	Complement options	162-167	
3	Sept 10	Move	167-171	
	Sept 12	Deep Structure & Surface Structure	171-177	
	Sept 14	UG & Parametric Variation	177-182	
4	Sept 17	Some Additional Structures	182-188	
	Sept 19	Syntax Problems		
	Sept 21	EXAM - SYNTAX		
5	Sept 24	The Nature of Meaning & The Conceptual system	201-217	
	Sept 26	Syntax & Sentence Interpretation	217-228	
	Sept 28	Other Factors in Sentence Interpretation	228-235	
6	Oct 1	Words and word structure	111-118	
	Oct 3	Derivation & Compounding	118-127	
	Oct 5	Inflection	127-133	
7	Oct 8	Other Morphological Phenomena	133-139	
	Oct 10	EXAM – SEMANTICS & MORPHOLOGY		
	Oct 12	The Sound-Producing & Consonant Articulation	15-24	

8	Oct 15	Manner of Articulation & Vowels	24-35	
	Oct 17	Phonetic Transcription	35-37	
	Oct 19	Suprasegmentals and Speech Production	37-48	
9	Oct 22	Phonemes & Allophones	57-64	
	Oct 24	Syllable	83-91	
	Oct 26	NO CLASS- HOMECOMING		
10	Oct 29	Phonetics / Phonology Problems		
	Oct 31	EXAM –PHONETICS / PHONOLOGY		
	Nov 2	The Human Language Series		
11	Nov 5	L1 Acquisition: Phonological and Morphological development	361-378	
	Nov 7	Syntactic development & the possibilities of language acquisition	378-394	
	Nov 9	The Study of SLA and L2 Phonology	400-411	
12	Nov 12	NO CLASS - Veteran's Day		
	Nov 14	L2 Syntax and Morphology	412-420	
	Nov 16	Factors Affecting SLA & the L2 classroom	420-431	
13	Nov 19	Methods of Psycholinguistics Research	435-445	

	Nov 21	Language Processing and Linguistics	445-454	
	Nov 23	NO CLASS- Thanksgiving		
14	Nov 26	Psycholinguistic Modeling	454-460	
	Nov 28	Brain & Language	463-482	
	Nov 30	EXAM – ACQUISITION AND LANGUAGE PROCESSING		

15	Dec 3	American Tongues		
	Dec 5	Sociolinguistics of Language	485-499	
	Dec 7	Sociolinguistics of Society Final Project Due	499-524	
16	Dec 14	FINAL EXAM	7:30-9:30 a.m.	