LIN 205 (CAS): Introduction to Linguistic Analysis
Fall 2015

Class Time: Mondays, 7:00 – 9:40pm
Classroom: Talbert 111

Instructor: Randi Moore
Office Hours: Mondays 4 – 5pm, Wednesdays 10 – 11am, or by appointment
Office Location: Baldy 444
E-mail: randituc@buffalo.edu
Web page: www.buffalo.edu/~randituc

Undergraduate TA: Jasmin Jacob
Email: jsjacob@buffalo.edu
UTA Office Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 1 – 2pm, Baldy 607

Textbook
Language Files (11th edition), The Ohio State University.

Course Description
An introduction to the core areas of linguistics: phonetics (the study of the physical and physiological nature of linguistic sounds), phonology (the study of sounds as part of speakers’ knowledge of language), morphology (the study of the structure of words), syntax, (the study of the structure of sentences), and semantics (the study of linguistic meaning).

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of course requirements, students will have knowledge of:

- Core concepts: Students will comprehend the core concepts of linguistics (including those in phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, or semantics)
- Problem solving: Students will be able to analyze linguistic data from English and other languages and to construct descriptions of particular linguistic phenomena in particular languages
- Data analysis: Students will be able to develop basic analysis skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understand the main goal of linguistics; Explain the differences between human language and animal communication</td>
<td>Test 1, Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transcribe words of English into IPA; Identify places and manners of articulation of vowels and consonants</td>
<td>Problem set 1, Test 1, Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write phonological rules</td>
<td>Problem set 2, Test 1, Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyze morphological structure of words</td>
<td>Problem set 3, Test 2, Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draw phrase structure trees</td>
<td>Problem set 4, Test 2, Final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assign semantic types to lexical items and constituents of sentences</td>
<td>Problem set 5, Final</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Course Policies

- Use of office hours is encouraged!! Questions may also be answered by email, but in-person discussion is preferred.
- Feel free to work with other students for help with concepts or practice, but be sure to complete assignments alone.
- Absences may be excused with a doctor’s note or other relevant documentation. Students must notify the instructor prior to the missed class.
- Please be respectful and supportive of your fellow students; this includes keeping distractions and disruptions to a minimum (e.g. use of personal devices, arriving late/leaving early, consuming food/drink, talking/sleeping, etc.) Particularly egregious behavior will be reflected in your grade.
- Contact the instructor with any questions or problems you may have.

Course Requirements

Participation & Attendance (15%): Attendance and active participation are required. This means engaging in class discussions and exercises. Unexcused absences and a lack of engagement during class will result in a reduced participation grade.

Problem Sets (30%): Five problem sets will be assigned throughout the semester (6% of course grade each). Problem Sets will be posted at the start of each unit. After each unit, students will have until Wednesday at 4:30pm to submit their problem sets to the instructor’s mailbox (Baldy 619). The instructor will then review and be able to provide feedback by the next class before moving on to the next unit. Late problem sets will not be accepted; therefore, please start these early and attend office hours if you encounter issues that might delay completion.

Tests (30%): Two tests will be held in-class (15% of course grade each). These will consist of some questions like those from the problem sets and some multiple choice and short answer questions.

Final (25%): A cumulative final exam will take place during the university-determined final exam time: Friday, December 18th, 7:15-10:15pm, in Clemens 6. Please do not schedule travel that may conflict with this time slot. The exam will be a similar format to the tests, but will be comprehensive.

Final Course Grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 - 92</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Useful Links

Academic Integrity Policy: [http://undergrad-catalog.buffalo.edu/policies/course/integrity.shtml](http://undergrad-catalog.buffalo.edu/policies/course/integrity.shtml)

Accessibility Resources: [http://www.student-affairs.buffalo.edu/ods/](http://www.student-affairs.buffalo.edu/ods/)

Center for Excellence in Writing: [http://www.buffalo.edu/cas/writing.html](http://www.buffalo.edu/cas/writing.html)
Schedule

**August 31: Introduction**
Overview of course.

**Reading:** Chapter 1

**September 7: NO CLASS (Labor Day)**

**September 14: Phonetics**
Basic acoustics and the human auditory system. The airstream mechanics of speech. Speech sounds: segments/phones (consonants and vowels) and suprasegmentals (pitch, length, stress). Language modalities. Sounds vs. letters. Phonetic symbols and phonetic transcription using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).

**Reading:** Chapter 2

**September 21: Phonetics**
Transcribing English words into IPA. Categorizing consonants and vowels into different places and manners of articulation.

**Reading:** Chapter 2

**September 28: Phonology**
Underlying vs. surface representations. Sound alternations, minimal pairs, phonemes, and allophones. Syllabic structure.

**Reading:** Chapter 3

**October 5: Phonology**
Phonemic distribution (contrastive, complementary, overlapping) and phonetic similarity. Phonological analysis and formalization of language rules.

**Reading:** Chapter 3

**October 12: TEST 1**
- Test 1 covers introduction, phonetics, phonology
- Test will begin at 8pm and should take about 1 hour
- Review session will be held 7-8pm

**October 19: Morphology**

**Reading:** Chapter 4
October 26: Morphology
Analytic (isolating) and synthetic (agglutinating, fusional, polysynthetic) languages. Allomorphs and morphological analysis.

Reading: Chapter 4
**Problem Set 3 due Wednesday, October 28th at 5pm

November 2: Syntax

Reading: Chapter 5

November 9: Syntax

Reading: Chapter 5
**Problem Set 4 due Wednesday, November 11th at 5pm

November 16: TEST 2
- Test 2 covers morphology, syntax
- Test will begin at 8pm and should take about 1 hour
- Review session will be held 7-8pm

November 23: Semantics
Sense and reference. Lexical semantics (synonymy, antonymy, polysemy, hyponymy, hypernymy) and compositional semantics. Gradable, intersective, subsective, and non-intersective adjectives.

Reading: Chapter 6

November 30: Semantics

Reading: Chapter 6
**Problem Set 5 due Wednesday, December 2nd at 5pm

December 7: Final Review
- Bring all exams and problem sets to assist with review

December 18: FINAL EXAM
- Final Exam is scheduled for Friday, December 18th, 7:15-10:15pm, in Clemens 6
- Final Exam covers all units