

LING 400: SURVEY OF LINGUISTIC METHOD AND THEORY

AUTUMN 2016

Class time	T TH 8:30 AM - 10:20 AM
Location	MGH 238
Instructor	Brent Woo bwoo@uw.edu
Office	GUG 407
Office hours	TBD
Course web site	http://moodle.llc.washington.edu/course/view.php?id=175
Entry code	autumn2016

This course will introduce you to the field of linguistics: the scientific study and analysis of human language. We will survey some of the core subfields of linguistics:

- phonetics (the study of the perception/ production of speech sounds),
- phonology (the study of sound systems and patterns),
- morphology (the study of word formation and structure),
- syntax (the study of sentence structure), and
- semantics (the study of word and sentence meaning).

Our investigation into this field will include linguistic data that represents the vast diversity of human language as well as some of those characteristics that are universal to all human languages. In addition, we will also investigate how the study of language and linguistic structure can be used in other disciplines, such as psychology, neurology, and sociology.

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

- understand the different levels of language structure and their related core fields within linguistics;
- use scientific methods to conduct linguistic analyses at each level of linguistic structure;
- effectively and appropriately apply methods of analysis cross-linguistically, to language phenomena within English as well as within other languages;
- identify the properties common to all natural languages as well as the ways in which languages can vary;
- understand how language is acquired and how it is represented in the brain;
- apply knowledge of linguistics and language structure to the study of other disciplines.

PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for LING 400; however it is not open for credit to students who have taken LING 200.

TEXTBOOK

"Language Files 11" = Mihalicek, V., and Wilson, C. (eds.). 2011. Language Files: Materials for an Introduction to language and linguistics (11th ed.). Columbus: Ohio State University Press.

COURSE WEBSITE ON MOODLE

The course website is on Moodle, an online course management system provided by the Language Learning Center (LLC).

To access the course website on Moodle, you must create an account (if you do not already have one from another class). Click on the green "NetID Log in" button in the middle of the screen. Log on with your UW username and password. Once you're logged in to Moodle, click on the "Linguistics" link in the "Course categories" list on the main Moodle home page. From there, click on "LING 400, Autumn 2016". You will be asked for an "enrollment key". The key is **autumn2016**. Then click, "Enroll me". You need only do this one time to be able to access the course for the quarter. Bookmark the main course page for future visits. (For Moodle help and troubleshooting, please contact Russ Hugo: rlhugo@uw.edu)

ASSIGNMENTS

Your course grade will be based on your performance on the following assignments:

1. Quizzes (20% of course grade)

Throughout the quarter, a series of weekly timed online quizzes will test your knowledge of the concepts covered in the previous week's readings and lectures. The format of the quizzes will primarily be multiple choice, true/false, and matching. These quizzes will be conducted online using Moodle. Each quiz will open at 6:00am and close at 11:30pm on the day they are scheduled (after which time they cannot be accessed). Each student is responsible for making sure they start, complete, and submit each quiz during this time window. We will have a practice quiz prior to the first graded quiz so you can make sure you know how it works. (Important: Do not navigate away from the quiz page while you are taking the quiz or it may reset the timer, causing your quiz to be submitted late which will result in a penalty.) There will be NO opportunities to make up missed quizzes. Because of this strict policy, you will be allowed to drop your lowest quiz grade.

2. Homeworks (20% of course grade)

A series of near-weekly online homework assignments (administered via Moodle) will test your ability to apply the knowledge and skills gained within each course topic to do linguistic analysis. The format of the homework assignments will include both objective-style questions (e.g., multiple choice, matching, etc.) as well as short-answer and longer, multi-part, analysis questions involving data sets or language problems. You will have a week to work on each of these assignments, during which time you will be able to work on it at your leisure, save your progress, and return to it later. (However, to get full credit for the assignment, you must click "submit all and finish" at some point before the assignment's closing date/time. Failure to do so will result in a 10% grade penalty.) There will be NO opportunities to make up missed homework assignments. Because of this strict policy, you will be allowed to drop your lowest homework grade.

3. Exams (50% of course grade)

There will be two exams. The first is a midterm exam (25% of grade) which will cover the topics of the first half of the class. The second and final exam (25% of grade) is cumulative, but with an emphasis on the material covered since the midterm. There will be NO opportunities to retake, postpone, or take an exam early so please take note of the exam dates and schedule your activities accordingly.

4. Participation (10% of course grade)

The discussions, group exercises, and demonstrations that will take place in the lectures will benefit greatly from your regular attendance and participation. Your participation grade will be calculated based on your informed contribution to class discussions and/or on the Moodle discussion forums.

GRADING

The following UW Grading scale will be used:

Percent = Grade

≥ 95%	= 4.0	88	= 3.3	81	= 2.6	74	= 1.9	67	= 1.2
94	= 3.9	87	= 3.2	80	= 2.5	73	= 1.8	66	= 1.1
93	= 3.8	86	= 3.1	79	= 2.4	72	= 1.7	65	= 1.0
92	= 3.7	85	= 3.0	78	= 2.3	71	= 1.6	64	= 0.9
91	= 3.6	84	= 2.9	77	= 2.2	70	= 1.5	63	= 0.8
90	= 3.5	83	= 2.8	76	= 2.1	69	= 1.4	60-62	= 0.7
89	= 3.4	82	= 2.7	75	= 2.0	68	= 1.3	< 60	= 0.0 (failing)

POLICIES

- **Readings.** The assigned readings are to be read in advance of the lectures. The readings complement the lectures and provide the necessary background; however, you should not assume that they will be fully summarized or reviewed in class.
- **Slides.** I will post the slides that I use in lecture to the course website after each class is concluded.
- **Electronic devices.** Use what you need to stay engaged but don't distract others. As a courtesy, those using laptops should sit in the back.
- **Classroom behavior/Academic integrity.** Please respect your fellow students. Activities such as talking with a friend during lectures, reading the paper, eating/drinking, sleeping/snoring, packing up early, coming in late, or leaving early are considered discourteous and are examples of disruptive behaviors. Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic ethics, honesty and integrity. Academic misconduct includes (but is not limited to) plagiarism, harassment, cheating, or disruptive behavior and will not be tolerated.
- **Grading challenges, questions, complaints.** If you have a question or complaint about a wrong answer on a quiz/homework/exam or wish to make a grading challenge or appeal, please wait 24 hours after receiving the grade and then arrange to talk to me about it during my office hours.
- **Questions and email etiquette.** If you have a question, please post it to the course discussion forum (unless it is private and requires confidentiality). Most of the questions I receive from students are applicable to everyone, so my answers can benefit the entire class. It also usually saves me from having to answer the same question more than once. Further, many questions can be answered by other students in the class (which I welcome and which counts for participation), often more quickly than I can get to them. I aim to answer discussion forum questions within 24 hours.
If you do have to email me about a personal matter, it is good practice to: 1) use a relevant and informative subject line that includes 'LING 400'; 2) use your UW email or at least sign off using your full name so I can properly identify you; and 3) allow up to 48 hours to receive a response.
- **Special needs.** To request academic accommodations due to a disability (e.g., a note taker, extra time on exams, etc.), please contact Disabled Resources for Students (DRS), 448 Schmitz, 543-8924 (V), 543-8925 (TTY), uwdss@u.washington.edu. If you have a letter from DRS indicating that you have a disability which requires special academic accommodations, please present the letter to me as soon as possible so the proper accommodations can be discussed and met. Accommodations cannot be made retroactively.

LING 400 SCHEDULE

Week	Day	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
0	Th 9/29	Linguistic competence, performance; Descriptive/Prescriptive grammar	1.1 - 1.3.3	
	F 9/30			IPA Quiz, Intro Quiz
1	T 10/4	What is language? Design features of language; Animal communication	1.4; 14.1 - 14.3	
	Th 10/6	Phonetics 1: Spelling vs. Pronunciation; Vocal tract anatomy, Articulation; English consonants	2.1 - 2.2	
	F 10/7			Quiz 0
2	T 10/11	<i>No class: Brent at conference</i>		
	Th 10/13	Phonetics 2: English vowels; Non-English sounds	2.3 - 2.4	
	F 10/14			Quiz 1
3	T 10/18	Phonetics 3: IPA transcription, Phonology 1: Phonemes and allophones	3.2	
	W 10/19			HW 1
	Th 10/20	Phonology 2: Phonological rules, Natural classes; Phonological Analysis	3.3, 3.5	
	F 10/21			Quiz 2
4	T 10/25	Morphology 1: Word formation; Types of morphemes; Morphological word formation processes	4.1 - 4.2; 13.4.4	
	W 10/26			HW 2
	Th 10/27	Morphology 2: Hierarchical structure; Morphological analysis	4.4 - 4.5	
	F 10/28			Quiz 3
5	T 11/1	Syntax 1: Arguments vs. Adjuncts; Syntactic constituency	5.1 - 5.3	
	Th 11/3	Syntax 2: Syntactic categories; Grammar; Phrase structure	5.4 - 5.5	
	F 11/4			HW 3

LING 400 : Aut 2016

6	T	11/8	MIDTERM		
	Th	11/9	Semantics: Lexical and compositional semantics Pragmatics: Grice's Maxims, Humor	6.1 - 6.4; 7.2	
	F	11/11	<i>No Class anyways, but FYI: Veteran's Day Holiday</i>		Quiz 4
7	T	11/15	Language acquisition: Theories, Critical Period; Stages	8.1 - 8.3	
	W	11/16			HW 4
	Th	11/17	Neurolinguistics: Lateralization, Aphasia; Production errors	9.1 - 9.3	
	F	11/18			Quiz 5
8	T	11/22	Sociolinguistics: Language variation; Regional dialects	10.1 - 10.3	
	W	11/23			HW 5
	Th	11/24	<i>No Class: Thanksgiving Day Holiday</i>		
9	T	11/29	Language and culture: The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis	11.2	
	W	11/30			Quiz 6
	Th	12/1	Historical / Future linguistics: Language change, evolution, genetics	13.1 - 13.2	
	F	12/2			HW 6
10	T	12/6	Writing Systems Computational and Experimental Linguistics	15.2	
	W	12/7			Quiz 7
	Th	12/8	Being a Linguist Final Review		
	F	12/9			HW 7
Finals	TBA		FINAL		

Everything on the syllabus, including this schedule, is subject to change as we progress through the quarter. Important changes will be noted during class and it is the student's responsibility to keep abreast of them.