Elements of Linguistics
SLHS22700 / LING20100
SPRING 2013

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Office Hours: Thursdays 4:30 to 5:30 and by appointment
Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3-4:15 pm
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TA: Mengxi Lin
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Office Hours: Mondays 1-2 pm and Fridays 3-4 pm
BRNG B290

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

COURSE OBJECTIVES
This course is designed to introduce you to major areas in the study of the human language (linguistics) and to provide you with an understanding of each area’s main findings and concepts. This course also aims to demonstrate how findings in some areas of linguistics relate to real life issues, such as, for example, inter-cultural communication and brain injury.

CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY
You are expected to attend every class. Your attendance and preparation are important for success in this course. If you must be absent from a class for any reason, you are still responsible for the content of the class. If you have a serious reason to be absent for an extended period of time, please let me know as soon as possible. There is no formal grade for attendance; however, I will keep attendance records for administrative purposes and to identify students who might be having academic problems.

If you have a cold or flu, please consider not attending a lecture. In such cases, notify the TA and provide medical documentation of your illness (from Purdue Student Health Center), whenever possible.

BLACKBOARD
The Blackboard course web pages will be used to distribute lecture notes and to post grades and other important course information. I will also post announcements (for example, a
change in homework assignment’s due date) in Blackboard. To access Blackboard, go
to http://www.itap.purdue.edu/tlt/blackboard/ and enter your career account login and password.
If you are officially registered for the course, but you do not find a link to this course, please notify
me right away.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING
You should write up each homework assignment and provide answers during exams on
your own. When a group of students works together on a homework assignment, each student
must write up his/her own assignment independently. Copying answers from classmates, allowing
others to copy your answers, copying text verbatim from the textbook or other sources, and all
other forms of plagiarism and cheating as given in the University’s guidelines will result in a zero
grade for the relevant tests or assignments and may be reported to the Dean of Students’ office for
disciplinary action. Below are Purdue University’s official guidelines concerning academic
dishonesty:

Purdue prohibits “dishonesty in connection with any University activity. Cheating, plagiarism,
or knowingly furnishing false information to the University are examples of dishonesty” [Part 5,
Section III-B-2-a, University Regulations]. Furthermore, the University Senate has stipulated that
"the commitment of acts of cheating, lying, and deceit in any of their diverse forms (such as the use
of substitutes for taking examinations, the use of illegal cribs, plagiarism, and copying during
examinations) is dishonest and must not be tolerated. Moreover, knowingly to aid and abet, directly
or indirectly, other parties in committing dishonest acts is in itself dishonest” [University Senate
Document 72-18, December 15, 1972].

GETTING HELP
• If you have difficulty with the course material for any reason, feel free to come discuss it with
either the TA or me. If you cannot make it to office hours, you can set up an appointment at
a different time. It is important that academic problems are discussed as early in the
semester as possible.

• The Dean of Students’ Office (Schleman 207, 494-1747) provides confidential advice and
counseling for students having any kind of academic or non-academic problems.
http://www.purdue.edu/ODOS/

• The Academic Success Center (Beering 3268, 494-5569) offers workshops, classes, and
personal consultations to help students improve their study skills and academic

• “Purdue University is required to respond to the needs of the students with disabilities as
outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of
1990 through the provision of auxiliary aids and services that allow a student with a
disability to fully access and participate in the programs, services, and activities at Purdue
University.” If you have a disability that requires special academic accommodation, please
make an appointment to speak with me within the first three (3) weeks of the semester in
order to discuss any adjustments. It is important that we talk about this at the beginning of the semester. It is the student's responsibility to notify the Disability Resource Center (http://www.purdue.edu/drc) of an impairment/condition that may require accommodations and/or classroom modifications.

CAMPUS SAFETY

Please review information on the following website to familiarize yourself with what to do in an emergency:
http://www.purdue.edu/emergency_preparedness/

Remember: if you hear outdoor sirens, go to the nearest shelter-in-place; if you hear fire alarms, evacuate the building!
# SCHEDULE OF LECTURES, HW ASSIGNMENTS, AND TESTS

## Week 1
- **8 January**  
  Introductions, Overview of the Syllabus and policies
- **10 January**  
  Chapter 1. What is Language?

## Week 2
- **15 January**  
  Chapter 2. Brain and Language  
  HW#1 is due
- **17 January**  
  Chapter 2. Brain and Language

## Week 3
- **22 January**  
  Chapter 2. Brain and Language
- **24 January**  
  Chapter 3. Morphology: The Words of Language  
  HW#2 is due

## Week 4
- **29 January**  
  Chapter 3. Morphology: The Words of Language
- **31 January**  
  Exam 1 Review  
  HW#3 is due

## Week 5
- **5 February**  
  **Exam 1**
- **7 February**  
  Chapter 4. Syntax: The Sentence Patterns of Language

## Week 6
- **12 February**  
  Chapter 4. Syntax: The Sentence Patterns of Language
- **14 February**  
  Chapter 4. Syntax: The Sentence Patterns of Language

## Week 7
- **19 February**  
  Chapter 5. The Meaning of Language  
  HW#4 is due
- **21 February**  
  Chapter 5. The Meaning of Language

## Week 8
- **26 February**  
  Chapter 6. Phonetics: The Sounds of Language  
  HW#5 is due
- **28 February**  
  Chapter 6. Phonetics: The Sounds of Language

## Week 9
- **5 March**  
  Exam 2 Review  
  HW#6 is due
- **7 March**  
  **Exam 2**
### Week 10
- **12 March**: SPRING BREAK
- **14 March**: SPRING BREAK

### Week 11
- **19 March**: Chapter 7. Phonology: The Sound Patterns of Language
- **21 March**: Chapter 7. Phonology: The Sound Patterns of Language

### Week 12
- **26 March**: Chapter 7. Phonology: The Sound Patterns of Language
- **28 March**: Chapter 8. Language Acquisition

### Week 13
- **2 April**: Chapter 8. Language Acquisition
  - HW#7 is due
- **4 April**: Chapter 9. Language Processing: Humans and Computers

### Week 14
- **9 April**: Chapter 9. Language Processing: Humans and Computers
  - HW#8 is due
- **11 April**: Chapter 10. Language in Society

### Week 15
- **16 April**: Chapter 10. Language in Society
  - HW#9 is due
- **18 April**: Chapter 10. Language in Society (*American Tongues*)

### Week 16
- **23 April**: Open Topic
  - HW#10 is due
- **24 April**: Final Exam Review
HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

Homework exercises are selected from the main textbook “An Introduction to Language.” See Schedule of Lectures, Homework Assignments, and Tests for due dates. You are required to hand in exercises at the beginning of the lecture period on the due date. If you are unable to attend the class on the date on which the homework is due, you may email it to Dr. Kaganovich via Blackboard before the end of the class period. If you email your homework assignment, make sure that you follow all the format requirements as described below. Late homework will not be accepted unless there is a valid excuse such as illness or official university activities, properly documented. It is your responsibility to notify the TA in advance. Your homework will be picked up and returned to you in the classroom.

For all homework assignments, follow these format requirements:

1) Type your homework whenever possible. In some cases, you will need to draw diagrams or use symbols that are not readily available on most keyboards. In such cases, make sure that your hand-writing is legible. The instructor and the TAs reserve the right to return one’s homework ungraded if the answers are not easily legible.

2) Staple homework to a cover sheet which displays your printed first and last name, assignment number, and date in the upper right corner.

3) Print your last name at the top of each page.

4) Number all pages except for the cover sheet.

One point may be deducted per assignment for violation of any of the above at the discretion of the TA.

List of homework assignments (HW) and credits to be earned:

HW#1: Chapter 1, exercises 11 (think of 5 titles), 16 (look up 4 words in (b)), 17 (come up with 10 dge words)
HW#2: Chapter 2, exercises 8, 12, and 13
HW#3: Chapter 3, exercises 6, 13, 15
HW#4: Chapter 4, exercises 5, 12, 15
HW#5: Chapter 5, exercises 2, 5, 11, 12, and 14
HW#6: Chapter 6, exercises 2, 5, 6, and 11
HW#7: Chapter 7, exercises 1, 4, 5, and 6
HW#8: Chapter 8, exercises 5, 7, and 8
HW#9: Chapter 9, exercises 1, 5, and 10
HW#10: Chapter 10, exercises 5, 9 (list 10 argot words), and 11
EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENT

You can earn up to a total of 15 extra credit points by submitting video material exemplifying linguistic principles or procedures. For example, TV commercials, video segments from TV, movies, DVDs, or WWW. URLs to websites are acceptable only under very exceptional circumstances. The AV project may be submitted any time during the semester until the end of the last week of classes (but not during the finals week). Each project must be original. As projects are submitted, they will be posted on Blackboard. Once posted on Blackboard, a similar project from a different student cannot be accepted. It is strongly recommended that you obtain approval from Dr. Kaganovich before expending a lot of time and energy on a prospective topic.

Each submission must be accompanied by a written explanation as to what is being illustrated from a linguistic perspective. As an example, TV sitcoms make frequent use of words’ ambiguity. You can record a segment in which a comical situation is created by different interpretations of the same word. You may submit the material on a CD, DVD, or flash drive. All material will be returned to you by the end of finals week. You will be judged on the accuracy of your linguistic description in addition to the quality of your material. No advance reservations for material are permissible; everything works on a first-come first-served basis. Most students use YouTube videos for this assignment; however, other sources may also be used. I will show in class how to download a video from YouTube onto a portable device (such as a DVD or a flash drive).

SUBMISSION CHECKLIST for the extra credit assignment:

☐ Make sure material you choose is original and does not appear on the "do not use" list
☐ You are strongly encouraged to obtain approval of material from Dr. Kaganovich
☐ In case of DVDs, you must provide (1) absolute start and stop time from beginning of DVD, (2) chapter/title numbers, and (3) absolute time markers for start and end of selected scenes
☐ In case of YouTube video clips, you must provide (1) start and stop time for selected scene; (2) hyperlink to URL; (3) convert YouTube video clip using http://keepvid.com/ or other software; convert to .avi or .mp4; download; burn to DVD or store on thumb drive
☐ In case of video clips other than those on original DVDs, you MUST convert them to either .avi, .mp4, or .wmv format in order to earn the maximum number of points
☐ Each submission must be accompanied by a written explanation of its linguistic significance
☐ You are strongly advised to use only material for which the sound and video quality is clear
☐ You must hand in TWO copies of the written description in addition to the media
☐ All material you submit must be clearly labeled with your first and last name; course number; and date
☐ Enclose (1) paper, (2) media pertaining to your project and (3) submission checklist in a single envelope clearly labeled with your first and last name, course number, and date of submission
GRADING POLICY
Exam 1 100 points
Exam 2 100 points
Final Exam 150 points
Homework 150 points
Pop-up quizzes 40 points (8 quizzes x 5 points each)
Total: 540 points

486 – 540 points  90% - 100% = A
432 – 485 points  80% - 89%  = B
378 – 431 points  70% - 79%  = C
324 – 377 points  60% - 69%  = D
323 and below  59% - 0%  = F

The instructor reserves the right to adjust this grading scale but only in a direction that would benefit students. Students should consult Blackboard regularly for points earned on homework assignments and exams. If you submit the extra credit assignment (AV Project), up to 15 points will be added to your cumulative total from exams and homework.

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to change that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor’s control. Any information about changes in this course will be posted on the Blackboard website for this course. You should continue to use Blackboard email exclusively to contact me about matters related to the course.