Introduction to Linguistics / Elements of Linguistics
LING 201 / SLHS 227 – Fall 2015

Instructor: Christie Wai Ling Law
Email Address: wlaw@purdue.edu
Office: BRNG B290
Lecture Time/room: T/TH 12:00-1:15 pm, REC 316
Instructor Office Hours: T 1:20-2:20 pm & by appt.

SOURCES OF COURSE INFORMATION

Required textbook


Note: You must use the 6th edition of this book. Earlier editions are substantially different. Not having access to the exercises in the book is not an acceptable excuse for late/missing assignments.

Supplementary references
PDFs as assigned and posted to Blackboard.

Blackboard Learn
We will be using Blackboard learn (http://www.itap.purdue.edu/learning/tools/blackboard/index.cfm) as the primary means for distributing grades. You will also be able to download class notes and other supplementary materials from this system. Important course announcements will be made via Blackboard Learn Announcements, and also via Mixable (see below). Please do not rely on the Blackboard email system to contact your instructor. Use your own email to contact the instructor directly at the address given above.

Mixable
We will be using Mixable (http://www.purdue.edu/mixable/) as a means to facilitate discussion in this class. I commit time each day to read and respond to comments and questions posted via Mixable, and I encourage you to post and respond to your classmates as well. The login page for Mixable is accessible from the main mixable page by clicking the login button at the upper right. You are responsible for making sure you have access to Mixable. If you have problems, please contact ITaP. Some class information may be distributed only via mixable, and it is your responsibility to be able to access it in a timely manner.
COURSE OBJECTIVES
This course is an introduction to the scientific study of human language. You will learn fundamental linguistic concepts in phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and sociolinguistics, as well as procedures of linguistic analysis by solving real language problems through structured exercises. You will learn to “think like a linguist,” acquiring a new set of analytical tools that are applicable across disciplines.

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- develop a scientifically grounded understanding of the nature of human language.
- use the basic terminology of linguistics to describe the sounds, words, and sentences of English and other languages and to describe linguistic meanings.
- discuss major language phenomena from a theoretical standpoint.

COURSE POLICIES

Students with Disabilities: If you believe you have a disability, medical condition or other special circumstances that may affect your participation in this course please contact the Dean of Students Office (Schleman 207, 4-1747, www.purdue.edu/odos/drc/welcome.php) so that suitable arrangements can be made. **No accommodations can be provided without express written instructions from the Office of the Dean of Students.**

If you plan to take any exams through the Disability Resource Center, please schedule them on the day of the in-class exam or on the preceding day. I will not approve exams scheduled for any day after the in-class exam is given except under exceptional circumstances (see below). All exams taken in the DRC must be confirmed at least two weeks before the in-class exam is set to be given. It is your responsibility to make arrangements before that time. If this is not done, you will not be permitted to take the exam outside of the regularly scheduled exam period. Exam time is already scheduled for the semester (see course plan) so you should be able to schedule your exam well in advance.

Time commitment: In addition to the hours you spend in class, you should plan on spending **at least 6-8 hours per week** on reading, doing exercises, reviewing your notes, and other activities (homework, downloading and applying software packages, and visiting suggested websites). I also commit time to working with you. If there is any material that you do not understand, please contact me for help or come to my office hours. Do this sooner rather than later. Do not wait until the week before the exam to start studying!

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all lectures. However, attendance is not required. In my experience, students who attend class regularly understand the material better and consequently earn better grades. If you must be absent from lecture you are still responsible for all of the material covered during that class period. I recommend you make arrangements with your colleagues to borrow their notes if you miss class. I am not responsible for keeping you up-to-date on classes that you
miss (except that I agree to work with you to accommodate exceptional circumstances, see below). Note that lectures may not cover all material presented in the textbook, and will cover material that is not in the textbook. You are expected to know and understand all material covered in the course, whether presented in lecture, the textbook, or any other assigned readings. You must be present in class to turn in your homework and to take the quiz (if there is one), and quick quizzes may be given without warning in any lecture period (see assignments, below).

Reading assignments: All reading assignments for a given day should be completed before you come to class on that day. You may need to read a given assignment more than once, and it will help to read it both before and after attending the relevant lecture(s). Readings will follow the attached schedule unless stated otherwise in lecture.

Presentation: In my experience, students learn better if they are actively engaged in the learning process. Preparation prior to the class is an essential part of active learning. You are required to work with a colleague and give a 10-minute presentation about the topics to be covered on that day. In addition to making reference to the reading assignments, you are required to look for one additional source of information from books, journals, or Internet and share what you found with your colleagues. You will then lead a 5-minute discussion about the material in the class.

Homework: Written homework is a valuable form of active learning that helps students understand the materials covered in lectures. Homework will be assigned regularly. You are encouraged to work with colleagues on homework assignments, but if you turn in identical homework assignments you must give appropriate credit by putting all co-authors’ names on each paper. Do not simply copy work done by others. Homework assignments exhibiting evidence of plagiarism will receive an automatic 0 for the entire assignment. A second offense will result in your being reported to the Office of the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. Your homework is due in class on the due dates (see the course schedule). Assignments not turned in on the due date will receive a grade of 0. There are 10 graded homework assignments. At the end of the semester only your top 10 homework grades will be counted. No make-up assignments will be given for any reason.

Quizzes: Short quizzes will be given during classes to ensure that you are keeping up with and understanding course material. Reviewing the course material regularly (e.g. at least once per week) and making sure you can do your homework on your own will help you be prepared for these quizzes and will make it easier to prepare for the exams. Any quiz that shows evidence of plagiarism, and any student observed to be copying or assisting another to copy will receive an automatic 0 for the entire quiz. There are 10 graded quizzes. At the end of the semester only your top 10 quiz grades will be counted. No make-up quizzes will be given for any reason.

Examination: There will be one mid-term exam scheduled during regular class time (see the course schedule). It will comprise 25% of your final grade.
You are expected to take the exam on the day and time scheduled. Make-up exams are only allowed under exceptional circumstances (see below).

**Final Exam:** The final exam will be a take-home exam, will comprise 25% of your final grade, and will address information from the entire course. You will have one week to turn in your exam. You must turn in hard copies; no copies submitted electronically will be accepted. You may not discuss any part of the exam with anybody. Any exam that shows evidence of plagiarism, and any student found to be copying or assisting another to copy will receive an automatic 0 for the entire exam.

**Exceptional circumstances:** Beyond the circumstances covered by Purdue’s grievance policy, exceptional circumstances for this class include religious obligations, serious personal illness or injury, sudden hospitalization of an immediate family member, and illness of a dependent for whom you are solely responsible. If the absence can be anticipated (e.g. religious obligation, participation in a Purdue-sanctioned sporting event or performance, participation in an academic conference) you must notify me at least two weeks prior to the date of absence. In the case of Purdue-sponsored events, you must provide written documentation of the event from your supervisor (coach, director, principle investigator). Unanticipated absences may be excused only within 1 week following the date of your return to campus and upon presentation of written documentation verified by the Office of the Dean of Students. In order to qualify for a make-up exam, your absence must be confirmed as excused by the Office of the Dean of Students. If you have questions about this policy, please ask. You may also refer to the website www.purdue.edu/odos/services/classabsence.php

**Grading:** Course grade will be based on performance on the items described in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>250 points</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>250 points</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10 quizzes * 10 points each = 100 points</td>
<td>10 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>10 assignments * 25 pts each = 250 points</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>150 points</td>
<td>15 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000 points</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Final Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>% Range</th>
<th>Point Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>970-1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93.96</td>
<td>930-969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>900-929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87.89</td>
<td>870-899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83.86</td>
<td>830-869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80.82</td>
<td>800-829</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grades will be posted via Blackboard Learn as soon as each assignment, quiz, or exam has been graded for the entire class.

**Classroom atmosphere:** Please feel free to raise your hand to ask questions during lectures. I will do my best to answer your question in a timely manner. Please come to class prepared to participate. I often ask impromptu questions during lecture, and I expect you to be able to work with me when called upon to do so. Please be respectful of your instructor and your colleagues. If you must discuss something while someone else is talking, please do so quietly. If your discussion appears to be disruptive to the instructor or to other students you will be asked to quiet down. If you must be asked to quiet down more than once, you will be asked to leave class for the day. If you must leave early or arrive late, please make sure you enter or leave as quietly and unobtrusively as possible. I appreciate being notified of such occasions in advance, but understand that this is not always possible.

**Wireless Devices:** Please remember to turn off the sound on all electronic devices (phones, tablets, computers) before class begins. If your device is disruptive you may be asked to leave class. Use of any communication device during exams will result in a 0 and may be referred to the Office of the Dean of Students.

**Student Academic Misconduct** (a.k.a. cheating): If you work together with colleagues on a homework assignment, make sure you can also do the work on your own when your colleagues are not there to help you. If you work together on a homework assignment, you are expected to include all authors’ names on the assignment (whether or not they are currently enrolled in the class). Copying answers from anyone without attribution is plagiarism, and will be treated as such. You may not collaborate with anyone on quizzes or exams. Copying answers from classmates, allowing others to copy your answers, or in any way working together with others on quizzes or exams, using others’ work without attribution, and all other forms of plagiarism and cheating as given in the university guidelines will result in an automatic 0 on the assignment and the incident may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action for the first offense. For any subsequent offense, an F will be automatically assigned for the class grade and both incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. **Do not present the work of others as your own.** Please review carefully the brochure “Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students” available at the Dean of Students Office (Schleman 207) or online at: [http://www.purdue.edu/odos/aboutodos/academicintegrity.php](http://www.purdue.edu/odos/aboutodos/academicintegrity.php)

**Student Rights and Complaints:** The official policies of the University concerning student rights and complaints, honesty and academic misconduct can be found in the
Academic Procedure Manual, and in University Regulations, available from the Office of the Dean of Students or at:
http://www.purdue.edu/univregs/

Any concerns about grades given on a particular assignment must be put in writing (hardcopy) and given to me, attached to the assignment to which they refer. Your written statement should include a description of why you believe the grade to be incorrect, and what you believe the grade should be. In order to be considered, any appeal must be submitted within 1 week of the class in which the assignment is handed back.

Campus Emergency: In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Here are ways to get information about changes in this course: Blackboard Learn web page (https://blackboard.purdue.edu/), the course Mixable feed (http://www.purdue.edu/mixable/), and my email address: wlaw@purdue.edu.

Policy on letters of recommendation for graduate school: I am a graduate student and unable to write letters of recommendation for students. Graduate schools require letters from faculty members. A good way to get a letter of recommendation is to find a professor whose research interests match yours, volunteer to help in his/her lab, and be responsible, productive worker.