Introduction to Linguistics / LING 201
Beering B260, MWF 11:30-12:20pm

Instructor:
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MA Linguistics Program
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Course description:
This course is an introduction to the study of human language and language diversity. Its aim is to help you think critically and scientifically about language, using your new skills as a linguist. During the next 16 weeks, you will learn to think like a phonetician, phonologist, morphologist, syntactician, and semanticist. This background in the core fields of linguistics will equip you with the knowledge needed to discuss major language phenomena from a theoretical standpoint. You will also apply the theory by doing linguistic analyses. With this training, you will be able to take more advanced linguistic courses, should you want to continue your adventure. And if you never take another linguistics course in your life, hopefully you will have gained a greater understanding of and appreciation for the diversity of human languages.

Textbook:

Assessment: (1000 points total)

Homework (350 points) 35%
During the semester, you will turn in six exercise sets pertaining to the current readings and class lectures. You may work with others on these assignments, but you must write up your own answers independently. If you work with classmates on these assignments, please be sure to put the names of anyone you have worked with at the top of your homework. Homework assignments must be submitted in class on the day they are due (hard copies only). Late submissions are not accepted except in the case of illness or emergency. Please contact me as soon as possible about any problems.

IPA Transcription Exercises (50 points) 5%
There will be two small take-home transcription exercises to help you practice using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). These will be assigned during the section covering phonetics.

Warm-ups (250 points) 25%
We will begin class most days with a warm-up exercise reviewing material from the current topic we are discussing. These exercises will be graded in class by your classmates. If you have questions about a grade you receive on a warm-up exercise, please see me after class to address your concerns.

Midterm Exam (150 points) 15%
The midterm will cover the first four chapters of the textbook and will take place during a normally scheduled class period. Make-up exams are not offered except in the case of serious illness or emergency.

Final Exam (200 points)  
20%  
Date and Time of exam TBA. Make-up exams are not offered except in the case of serious illness or emergency.

Attendance  
In order to understand and learn the materials for this course, it is important that you attend all classes and participate in class discussions and activities. You are responsible for the material you miss when absent from class. If you will be absent for an extended period of time due to illness or other such circumstances, please speak with me as soon as possible to make arrangements for the completion of your class work.

Extra Credit  
Some small extra credit opportunities may be available throughout the semester.

Class policies:  
- Cheating, harassment, and plagiarism are not tolerated and will be penalized in accordance with Purdue regulations  
- Please silence your cell phone before coming to class.  
- Generally, no food is allowed in the classroom but beverages are OK.  
- All assignments, unless otherwise noted, must be submitted as hard copies in class, on the day they are due. Please type assignments if possible, otherwise please keep the handwriting legible!  
- Please be polite and respectful to other classmates and to the instructor, but do ask questions and try to participate in our discussions!  
- If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to come to office hours or to email me.

Accessibility  
Purdue University is committed to ensuring all students can fully participate in its programs. 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 helpful for us to talk about this near 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. More broadly, we all learn in different ways and have our own challenges, so please talk to me as soon as possible about your learning needs so we can work together to meet them.

Emergencies  
Purdue University’s emergency policy is as follows: 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 beyond the instructor’s control. Relevant changes to this course will be posted onto the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructors or TAs via email or phone.

This syllabus is subject to change. Students will be notified on Blackboard or by email of any changes made to the policies or syllabus.