

ANTHROPOLOGY 1027B-650

Introduction to Linguistics

COURSE OUTLINE

Winter 2021

Instructor: Olga Kharytonava (she/her)

Email: vkharyt@uwo.ca

Office hours: announced on OWL

Credit value: 0.5 credit

Mode of delivery: For 2020/2021 this course will be conducted online. It is *asynchronous*, meaning that students will be provided with a variety of lesson materials and activities that can be done throughout the week, although there may be tasks that must be completed by specific times.

Calendar Course Description: Introduction to basic concepts and methods of modern linguistics. Topics include articulatory and acoustic phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics. This course is a prerequisite for subsequent linguistics courses in the Department of Anthropology and/or the Linguistics program.

Antirequisites: Linguistics 2288A/B.

Prerequisites: None.

Course Syllabus:

Linguistics is the scientific study of human language: how it works, patterns, structures, processes of change. Linguists study language as a system of thought and communication by examining particular languages and comparing them. In this course, students will learn the basic concepts in the main areas of linguistics: phonetics (sound systems), phonology (sound patterns), morphology (word formation), syntax (sentence structure) and semantics (word and sentence meaning). In addition, we will explore the changes in language. This course trains students to recognize patterns in language and to solve analytical problems using both systematic and creative thinking. Students will be introduced to many different languages as we examine similarities and differences among them.

A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course's OWL site before the first day of class.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize linguistic patterns within and across languages.
- Effectively analyze the structure of languages, as manifested in their phonological, morphological, syntactic, and/or semantic systems.
- Express, assess, and defend analyses of linguistic data with clarity and rigor in standard written academic language.
- Use linguistic terminology to explain language phenomena.

- Develop a simulation of a language system modeled on other languages

Course Materials:

Contemporary Linguistic Analysis: an introduction, 9th edition. Edited by William O'Grady and John Archibald (2019) Pearson/Longman: Toronto.

Additional readings (available either online, on reserve at Weldon Library, to be announced later) as required.

Optional:

Contemporary Linguistic Analysis: an introduction, study guide, 8th edition. Edited by William O'Grady and John Archibald, prepared by Teresa Merrells (2016) Pearson/Longman: Toronto.

Evaluation:

Weekly Exercises – 10% (1% each, the lowest will be dropped)

3 Homework Assignments – 35% (10%, 12%, 13%)

Group Project – 25%

Final Assignment – 30%

Weekly Exercises

There will be 11 Weekly Exercises in OWL, and you are allowed to miss one of them. They will be open on Monday 9am EST and have to be completed by Thursday 11.55pm EST. The answers will be available on Friday 9am EST. No make-up will be available for the Weekly Exercises, meaning that a missed exercise will automatically receive a 0 and will count as your lowest (and so dropped) grade. It is highly recommended that you complete them on Wednesday/Thursday and check the correct answers on Friday. They will be graded for completeness, not correctness. You are encouraged to attend the office hours to ask clarification questions about these exercises.

Homework Assignments

There are four homework assignments due throughout the term. Homework must be submitted electronically on OWL by 11.55pm EST of the Friday of the week indicated on the schedule unless otherwise specified. Follow the instructions very closely and submit the files in the required format. Late homework will be penalized 5% per business day and will only be accepted until Tuesday (15% penalty). You may submit handwritten homework assignments if you find the linguistic symbols and diagrams too difficult or tedious to reproduce by computer. Make sure your writing is neat; illegible assignments will not be marked. Electronic attachments must be all in one document and not attached as separate images. Failure to follow these submission requirements will result in our refusal to accept your assignment.

Group Project

In this assignment, you will apply the theoretical knowledge you learned throughout the course and put it into practice by creating a simulated language system modeling it based on the systems of other languages. Different components of the group projects will be due at different times and all the group members will be required to check in regularly. You will also be required to complete the readings on the effectiveness of team work, and you will evaluate your peers as well as your own contributions.

Final Assignment

The final assignment is a cumulative assignment, where you will be asked to apply all the analytical skills you have learned throughout the course, including those gained from your participation in the group project. The final assignment will be due on a date during the April exam period, to be determined by the Registrar's office. This assignment will be open for a week and will take a well-prepared student 4 hours to complete.

Statement on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see

[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

and for the [Student Medical Certificate \(SMC\)](#).

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

Statement on Seeking Special Accommodations:

No accommodations will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date or a missed quiz or test. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds.

Statement on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

Institutional Statements and Policies

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation. These policies are outlined in Western's academic policies by clicking on this link: [Western's academic policies](#).

Calendar (Subject to change at any time). Check OWL often.

Week	Date	Topic	Readings	Assignments Due
1	Jan 11-17	Introduction to Linguistics	Ch. 1	
2	Jan 18-24	Phonetics	Ch. 2	WE 1
3	Jan 25-31	Phonetics/phonology	Ch. 2, Ch. 3	WE 2
4	Feb 1-7	Phonology	Ch. 3	WE 3 Homework Assignment 1
5	Feb 8-14	Morphology	Ch. 4	WE 4
	Feb 15-21	Reading Week		
6	Feb 22-28	Morphology	Ch. 4	WE 5
7	March 1-7	Morphophonology	Ch. 4	WE 6 Homework Assignment 2
8	March 8-14	Syntax	Ch. 5	WE 7
9	March 15-21	Syntax	Ch. 5	WE 8

10	March 22-28	Historical Linguistics	Ch. 8	WE 9
11	March 29-April 4	Historical Linguistics	Ch. 8	WE 10 Homework Assignment 3
12	April 5-8	Semantics	Ch. 6	WE 11 Group Project