



# Anthro 1027B-650

## Introduction to Linguistics

Winter 2022  
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<b>Instructor office hours:</b>	Tuesday, 6:30pm to 7:30pm Subject to change – See OWL for updates
<b>Graduate Teaching Assistants:</b>	Menghen Li – <a href="mailto:mli2336@uwo.ca">mli2336@uwo.ca</a> Michael Lowell – <a href="mailto:mllowell@uwo.ca">mllowell@uwo.ca</a>
<b>G.T.A Office hours:</b>	TBA – See OWL for update

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**This is an online 12-week course and runs from Jan 3 to Apr 1 2022.**

Antirequisites: Linguistics 2288A/B  
Prerequisites: None

### **Course description (from Western Academic Calendar):**

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.

### **What is linguistics?**

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.

### **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.

### **Evaluations:**

Quizzes – 10% (2% each, the lowest will be dropped)

3 Homework Assignments – 55%: Assignment 1 =18%, Assignment 2 = 18%,

Assignment 3 = 19%

Final Assignment – 35%

### **Quizzes**

There will be 6 quizzes in OWL, and you are allowed to miss or drop one of them. On weeks where a quiz is scheduled, it will be open on Monday 8am 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. You are encouraged to attend the office hours to ask clarification questions about these exercises.

### **Homework Assignments**

There are three 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 *calendar day* and will only be accepted until the following Wednesday (25% penalty). Assignments

must be completed using a word processor and must be submitted as a PDF. Handwritten assignments and assignments submitted in a format that is not PDF (e.g. Word, Pages) will not be accepted and a late penalty will apply for every day that a PDF is not submitted. Failure to follow these submission requirements will result in our refusal to accept your assignment.

### **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. The format will resemble the homework assignments. It will be a take-home exam to be completed during the April exam session. The details of the final assignment will be explained during the final week of the course.

### **Course rhythm - How to “do” this course:**

This course is an asynchronous online course, which means we will not be meeting for regular lecture hours. All weekly lecture videos, materials, and assessments (quizzes or assignments) will be released on Monday mornings at 8am on OWL. Here are a few points to keep in mind with this course:

*Forum:* Use the OWL forum to ask questions and seek clarification on any course material and lecture. The forum is monitored by the teaching assistants and the instructor and they will do their best to answer all course-related questions. But it is also an opportunity for students to interact with each other. If you feel you can contribute to someone else’s question, feel free to post! Since we have no in-person lecture, we can use the forum as a platform to have interesting discussions that revolve around any aspect of linguistics, whether it is related to course material or not.

*Office Hours:* The TA’s and the instructor will all host regular office hours over Zoom. You are encouraged to attend these drop-in meetings if you have any questions or would like clarification on any of the course materials. Attendance is not mandatory, but students who occasionally attend office hours tend to benefit from more detailed explanations and different perspectives that are not available in the weekly lecture material.

*OWL:* This is our home base. All important communication is done on the OWL course site. You should be checking this page regularly and keep an eye on your e-mails for notifications of announcements. The OWL page is organized into different tabs: the course content tab is where you’ll find all the weekly lecture material and instructions for that week; the weekly exercises/quizzes tab is where quizzes will be posted; the assignments tab is where the homework assignments will be available, as well as the final assessment.

**Course calendar (subject to change – See OWL for updates)**

<b>Weeks</b>	<b>Lessons</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignments Due</b>
Week 1 Jan 3 – 7	Unit 1	Introduction to Linguistics + Phonetics	Ch. 1 + 2	
Week 2 Jan 10 - 14	Unit 2	Phonetics	Ch. 2	Quiz #1 – Due Thursday
Week 3 Jan 17 - 21	Unit 3	phonology	Ch. 3	<b>Homework Assignment 1 – Due Friday</b>
Week 4 Jan 24 - 28	Unit 4	Phonology	Ch. 3	Quiz #2 – Due Thursday
Week 5 Jan 31 - Feb 4	Unit 5	Morphology	Ch. 4	
Week 6 Feb 7 - 11	Unit 6	Morphology	Ch. 4	Quiz #3 – Due Thursday
Week 7 Feb 14 - 18	Unit 7	Morphophonology	Ch. 4	<b>Homework Assignment 2 – Due Friday (6pm)</b>
<i>Reading Week</i>				
Week 8 Feb 28 – Mar 4	Unit 8	Syntax	Ch. 5	Quiz #4 – Due Thursday
Week 9 Mar 7 - 11	Unit 9	Syntax	Ch. 5	Quiz #5 – Due Thursday
Week 10 Mar 14 - 18	Unit 10	Syntax	Ch. 5	
Week 11 Mar 21 - 25	Unit 11	Semantics	Ch. 6	<b>Homework Assignment 3 – Due Friday</b>
Week 12 Mar 28 – Apr 1	Unit 12	Historical Linguistics	Ch. 8	Quiz #6 – Due Thursday

## **Policies and statements:**

### **Statement on confidentiality:**

In a wholly online course, a certain level of trust is necessary in order for classes, assessments, and office hours to run smoothly. Part of that is trusting that people are using video and audio tools in a way that facilitates learning and is consistent with the student code of conduct.

Students may not record or distribute any class activity, including conversations during office hours, without written permission from the instructor, except as necessary as part of approved accommodations for students with disabilities. Any approved recordings may only be used for the student's own private use.

Please familiarize yourself with the expected code of conduct at the following link:  
[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/rights\\_responsibilities.html](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html)

### **Statement on plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is the act of taking someone else's work as your own. This can be intentional or unintentional, for example, by forgetting to use proper quotation or referencing, or submitting your own work for credit in more than one course. In either case, plagiarism is a serious academic offence.

Please familiarize yourself with the official statements on plagiarism at the following link:  
[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic\\_policies/rights\\_responsibilities.html](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/rights_responsibilities.html)

### **Academic consideration for student absences:**

Self-reported absences (from Academic policies page):

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less.

Students will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April.

Please see this link for more information about self-reported absences (page 3, section 3):  
[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf)

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.

Please see this link for more information about absences and academic consideration: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf)

### **Academic rights and responsibilities:**

All documentation relating to your rights and responsibilities as a student at Western University, including the above discussions on plagiarism, accommodation, as well as statements on conflicts of interest and codes of conduct, can be found at the following link:

<https://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?PolicyCategoryID=1&command=showCategory&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=>