LINGUISTICS 1

Introduction to the Study of Language

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CCLE course site: https://ccle.ucla.edu/course/view/191A-LING1-1

THIS IS AN ONLINE COURSE!

• Lectures are all online, available for streaming through the CCLE site. Homework, the final paper, and the final exam will all be submitted online.

• Discussion sessions are live via videoconference. You will have weekly regular meetings with your Teaching Assistant via videoconference webinar. Active participation in discussion sections constitutes 15% of your course grade and will be monitored regularly. You should watch video lectures and view weekly assignments prior to your discussion sections.

WHAT IS THIS COURSE ABOUT?

This course provides an introduction to the scientific study of human language. In it we focus on a number of core topics that are central to our current understanding of language (neurolinguistics, phonetics, morphology, syntax, and semantics). We will also explore interdisciplinary areas such as first language acquisition, the relation between language and thought, and animal communication. We will also dedicate time to examining the role of language in society by looking at non-standard language, slang, and obscenity. You will learn to analyze linguistic data from a broad range of languages. Overall, this course will help you gain a better understanding of what human language is and how we use it in our daily lives.
REQUIRED TEXTS

There are no *required* textbooks or readers for this course. However, you are highly encouraged to obtain a copy of *An Introduction to Language* by Fromkin, Rodman, & Hyams.

The 11\textsuperscript{th} edition of the textbook (pictured above left) is available for purchase at the UCLA Bookstore—either on campus or online. It’s also available from online booksellers such as amazon.com.

The 9\textsuperscript{th} and 10\textsuperscript{th} editions are also acceptable to use and are typically available at a much lower price. Please note that if you use either of these older editions, the chapter order will not match the reading schedule below, which is based on the 11\textsuperscript{th} edition.

GRADING

Your course grade will be calculated as follows:

- **Participation:** 15%
- **Homework:** 40%
- **Analysis Paper:** 25%
- **Cumulative Final Exam:** 20%

The +/- grading system will be used in this course.
PARTICIPATION

- Because the lectures are online and the course work is submitted online, we believe that it is important to have “live” interactions between students and instructors.
- Live sections are streamed at 6 different times during the week (W, Th, F), giving you time to discuss the course material before quizzes are due.
- Each session is 90-minutes long and is taught by a different TA. You can log in into any of the sessions (it does not have to be the one conducted by the TA of the section in which you are enrolled).
- You will be able to see and hear your TA via webcam; you will submit your questions and comments in real time via text chat.
- To encourage your participation in discussions, 15% of your course grade will be based on live session participation. To earn participation, you have to attend at least 25 minutes of a live discussion session for five of the six weeks. There are 6 discussion sections during the quarter (every week, you can log in into as many sessions as you like, but you won't receive additional points for additional logins). Your attendance is graded for five of the six sections, so you may miss one without affecting your grade. This is to account for late enrollment, illness, technical problems, and so forth. You do not need to contact us about these circumstances.
- In order to participate actively in the discussion, you should watch the lecture videos and review the quiz and essay prompts before the live sessions.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

You will receive a total of 5 homework assignments.

- The homeworks will be in the form of automatically-graded quizzes available through the course website.
- You will not be able to submit your homework after the closing time. Late work will not be accepted.
- Skipping assignments is the fastest way to lower your grade.
- We are happy to provide you with help on your homework during live discussion sections. It is however your responsibility to try to solve the problems before coming to section.
- The lowest homework score will be dropped. This drop is meant to cover any medical/personal/technical issues that a student may encounter during the summer session, plus any particularly bad performance on an assignment. You do not need to contact us separately about any of these eventualities, as extensions and make-ups will not be granted.
ANALYSIS PAPER

You will write a paper of 4-6 pages, 12-point type, double-spaced. You will submit the paper through TurnItIn on the CCLE site. See the course website for a description of the paper. The purpose of the paper is to stimulate you to reflect on your own language using the knowledge and tools that you will have acquired in the course.

FINAL EXAM

The final exam will be cumulative for the entire course. The exams will consist of multiple-choice, single-answer questions and will be machine scored.

• The final exam will be given the last day of class and will cover all of the modules in course.
• The final exam will be administered in two ways:

  1. **Online through Proctor U**, a third-party service that allows students to take their exam away from campus using a computer with Internet connection and a webcam.

     Students will have three hours from the time of logging in to complete the exam. Login can take place any time within a 30-hour window to accommodate different time zones. The exam will be available through Proctor U beginning August 1 at 6:00 PM PDT and must be completed by August 2 at 11:59 PM PDT. There will be a charge of approximately $33 payable directly to Proctor U prior to the start of the test. See the Final Exam link on the CCLE course site for further details.

  2. **In person and on-campus**. An in-person final exam will be administered on campus on Friday, August 2 at a time and location to be announced. Summer Sessions does not assign final exam rooms until a couple weeks into the session, so we won’t be able to confirm the time and room until then.

• **There will be no make-up final exam for any circumstances.** Anyone who misses the final exam but has otherwise completed the course work will be given an Incomplete.

COURSE POLICIES

*Academic Accommodations*

Students needing an academic accommodation based on a disability should contact the Center for Accessible Education (CAE) at (310) 825-1501 or in person at Murphy Hall A255. When
possible, students should contact the CAE within the first week of the term as reasonable notice is needed to coordinate accommodations. For more information visit [http://www.cae.ucla.edu](http://www.cae.ucla.edu).

Please feel free to talk to your instructor or your TA about any concerns or needs you might have for this course. All information about disability is considered private and will be treated with discretion.

**Academic Dishonesty**

Each assignment you turn in must be your individual and original work. We are required to report any cases of suspected plagiarism to the UCLA Dean of Students Office, and being found guilty of plagiarism may result in suspension or dismissal from the University. It’s really not worth it. If you are not sure about what constitutes plagiarism or academic dishonesty, read the [Student Guide for Academic Integrity](http://www.cae.ucla.edu), or simply talk to your TA.

**FAQs on Student Collaboration and Academic Dishonesty**

- *Can I collaborate on my homework with other students and show them my answers to homework questions?*
No, this constitutes academic dishonesty. You may discuss course materials with other students, but you should not share your answers to homework questions, or solicit answers from other students (your grade should be yours alone!).

• **Can I submit a homework for another student?**
  No. This also constitutes academic dishonesty. We can easily spot when two or more quizzes are submitted at the same time and from the same IP address, and contain the exact same mistakes. Also, don’t trust other students to do your assignments for you! There is no guarantee they will do them well (when we spotted this kind of collaboration in the past, it usually resulted in very low quiz scores)!

• **Can I work with a study group?**
  You can discuss the course materials with other students, but you should not work together on your write-ups or share any parts of your write-ups with other students. We can easily pick up collaborations using Turnitin, and we cannot accept assignments that were the clear results of collaboration (your GPA should be yours alone, not a group endeavor!).

• **Can I ask my TA to give me the correct answers to homeworks before the assignments are due?**
  Your TA is there to help you understand the materials, and you may of course ask clarification questions about your assignments. Your TA will not, however, share with you solutions to the assignments before they are due, and will not answer direct questions of the sort “Is (a) the right answer?.”

**Email policy**
• This is a large class: to get a prompt response while the course is in session, email your TA first (your TA oversees more than 80 students, your instructor oversees 500+).
• **Emails are for brief communications** (150 words max) and for making appointments for video conferencing.
• If you send your TA/your instructor long messages requiring long and complicated answers, we will suggest that we schedule a video conferencing appointment during office hours to talk about it, or that we go over the question during the live discussion sessions. It has been my experience that we can teach you much better by giving you 15 minutes of attention in person than by spending 40 minutes writing a long email!
• If you have any questions about your assignments and grading, first check the syllabus, then the website, and then email your TA.
## COURSE OUTLINE

### Week 1  June 24-30

**Lesson 1  Introduction**  
Lecture: Introduction Part 1  
Videos: Lectures  
Screening: *Discovering the Human Language: Colorless Green Ideas*  
(The Human Language Series #1)

**Reading**  
*An Introduction to Language*, pages 1-16

### Assignments

Homework 1 posted to CCLE website

**DISCUSSION SESSIONS WILL MEET IN WEEK ONE!**

### Week 2  July 1-7

#### July 4

July 4, Thursday is a holiday. July 4 Discussion sections will be rescheduled to Wednesday and Friday.

**Lesson 2  Language and Dialect**  
Lecture: Language and Dialect Part 1  
Videos: Lectures  
Reading  
*An Introduction to Language*, pages 269-290

**Lesson 3  Brain and Language**  
Lecture: Brain Part 1  
Videos: Lectures  
Screening: *Communication Between Cerebral Hemispheres*  
Optional Screening: *The Mind: Language*

**Reading**  
*An Introduction to Language*, pages 446-467

### Assignments

Homework 1 due  
Homework 2 posted to CCLE website
Week 3  July 8-12

Lesson 4  Phonetics
Videos:  Lecture: Phonetics Part 1
        Lecture: Phonetics Part 2
        Lecture: Phonetics Part 3
Reading  *An Introduction to Language*, pages 183-202; 208; 217-220

Lesson 5  Morphology
Videos:  Lecture: Morphology Part 1
        Lecture: Morphology Part 2
Reading  *An Introduction to Language*, pages 33-74

Assignments
Homework 2 due
Homework 3 available on CCLE website

Week 4  July 15-19

Lesson 6  Syntax
Videos:  Lecture: Syntax Part 1
        Lecture: Syntax Part 2
        Lecture: Syntax Part 3
Screening:  *Do You Speak American?* – Episode 3
Reading  *An Introduction to Language*, pages 75-96; 109-122

Lesson 7  First Language Acquisition
Videos:  Lecture: First Language Acquisition Part 1
        Lecture: First Language Acquisition Part 2
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Lecture: Language and Thought

Videos:
Lecture: Obscenity

Screening: George Carlin, *Seven Words You Can Never Say on Television*

Reading: *An Introduction to Language*, pages 22-25; 308-312

Assignments
Homework 5 due

Final Exam August 1-2