

ENGL 227
Spring 2009

Elements of Linguistics
TTh 9:00-10:15, REC 226

Instructor: Elizabeth Strong
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Office Hours: Monday 2:15-3:15, Tuesday 10:30-11:30
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Text:

A. Bergmann, K.C. Hau, & S.M. Ross (Eds). 2007. **Language Files**. 10th edition. Ohio State University Press.

Course Description:

Linguistics is the scientific study of the human faculty of language, rather than the study of any particular language. In this class we will use examples from many different languages to learn about how languages are structured (phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics); how they change over time (historical linguistics); how they are processed and learned (language acquisition); and how they are used by different people (sociolinguistics). By the end of this course, it is hoped that the student will:

- 1) Be familiar with the above components of linguistic analysis and be able to apply them to various language data;
- 2) Understand the complexity of language and its importance as a fundamental part of human interaction;
- 3) Recognise and be able to explain similarities between different languages;
- 4) Develop informed opinions about pedagogical and social issues pertaining to languages (such as language teaching methods and language planning);
- 5) Be able to carry out a basic linguistic research project.

Grading Policy:

Class Participation/Attendance:	10 %	(100 points)
Homework:	20 %	(200 points)
<i>There will be five assignments worth 50 points each (Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Historical Linguistics). The lowest score from these five assignments will be dropped for a total of 200 points.</i>		
Journals: (5 x 10 points each)	5 %	(50 points)
Sociolinguistics Project:	10 %	(100 points)
Phonetics Quiz:	5 %	(50 points)
Exam I:	10 %	(100 points)
Exam II:	10 %	(100 points)
Exam III:	10 %	(100 points)
Final Exam:	20 %	(200 points)

Total:	100 %	(1000 points)

In addition to the above required grading components, there will be an optional extra credit opportunity worth up to 30 points (3 %) extra on the final grade.

Assignment of Scores:

A+	97-100
A	93-96
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	59 or below

In the event that classes are cancelled due to extenuating circumstances, the course grade will be calculated based on work completed up to the time of cancellation.

Attendance:

This course covers a great deal of material in a very short period of time, and thus regular attendance is necessary in order to do well. Three absences are allowed; the class participation grade will be lowered by 10 points for each additional absence. There are no “excused” or “unexcused” absences; this policy applies to all absences, unless you have a serious problem that keeps you out of school for a prolonged period of time, in which case I need to see appropriate documentation. Do not assume that your absences will not be counted against your score unless you have spoken with me. NO MAKE-UP EXAMS will be given except in cases of serious emergency with appropriate documentation. Please make a note of exam dates and make every effort to be in class. I also appreciate students doing their best to make it to class on time each day so that we can cover as much material as possible during the class period and so that your classmates will not be disturbed by your late arrival.

Late Assignments:

No late assignments will be accepted. Assignments are due in class on the assigned day. However, the lowest of the five homework assignment grades will be dropped.

Cheating:

While I encourage students to study together, each student is expected to write up and turn in his own version of each homework assignment (please write the names of students you collaborated with on each homework assignment as well). No collaboration or cheating will be tolerated on exams; students caught cheating or aiding in cheating on an exam will receive an F for the course grade. Academic dishonesty such as cheating and plagiarism may be subject to additional university disciplinary action.

Students with Special Needs:

If you have any special needs for which you will require accommodation in this class, please notify me as soon as possible so that I may make arrangements for you.

Schedule

Assignments (both readings and written assignments) should be prepared BEFORE the class day for which they are listed. Numbers for reading assignments indicate the file numbers to be read in the book. Written assignments will have the file number followed by the individual numbers of any assigned questions within that file.

ex. LF 2.8 #7 = Answer question #7 in File 2.8

We may not be able to cover all the reading material in class; however, students are still responsible for learning the information. Exams may include any material from course readings, class activities, videos, and lectures. Even if material is not explicitly covered in class or on a homework assignment, it may still appear on the exam. (Not all topics covered in class will be covered on homework assignments).

Date	Topic	Assignments
January 13 (T)	Introduction Go Over Syllabus and Journals	
15 (Th)	What is language? What is linguistics?	Reading: 1.0-1.5
20 (T)	Phonetics: English Consonants	Reading: 2.0-2.2
22 (Th)	Phonetics: English Vowels Homework Due	Reading: 2.3 Written: 2.8 #7, 8, 14, 15, 19
27 (T)	PHONETICS QUIZ Phonetics: Non-English Sounds Suprasegmentals Go Over HW	Reading: 2.4, 2.5, 2.7
29 (Th)	Phonology: Phones/Phonemes Natural Classes and Rules	Reading: 3.0-3.2, 3.5
February 3 (T)	Phonology: Practice Exercises Journal Due	Written: Journal
5 (Th)	Phonology: Practice Exercises Homework Due	Written: 3.6 #24, 25, 26
10 (T)	Phonology: Go Over HW Review for Exam I	
12 (Th)	EXAM I: Intro to Linguistics/ Phonetics/Phonology	
17 (T)	Morphology: Word Formation Types of Morphemes Morphological Processes	Reading: 4.0-4.2, 4.5
19 (Th)	Morphology: Exercises Homework Due	Written: 4.6 #2, 23, 30, 34
24 (T)	Go Over Morphology HW Semantics Journal Due	Reading: 6.0-6.3 Written: Journal
26 (Th)	Pragmatics	Reading: 7.0-7.5
March 3 (T)	Grammar: Parts of Speech Syntax: Word Order & Meaning	Reading: 5.0, 5.1, 5.3-5.5
5 (Th)	Syntax: Practice Homework Due	Written: 5.7 #3, 11, 15

	10 (T)	Syntax: Go Over HW Review for Exam II Journal Due	Written: Journal
	12 (Th)	EXAM II: Morphology/Semantics/ Pragmatics/Syntax	
	March 16-20 (M-F)	SPRING BREAK	
	24 (T)	Historical Linguistics: Models of Language Change History of English	Reading: 11.0-11.2, 12.0- 12.2
	26 (Th)	Historical Linguistics: Reconstruction Exercises	Reading: 12.3-12.7
	31 (T)	Historical Linguistics: Reconstruction Exercises Homework Due	Written: 12.8 #5, 6, 24, 36
April	2 (Th)	Go Over Historical HW First Language Acquisition Journal Due	Reading: LF 8.0-8.5 Written: Journal
	7 (T)	Review for Exam III	
	9 (Th)	EXAM III: Historical Linguistics/Acquisition	
	14 (T)	Sociolinguistics: Case Studies, Dialectal Variation	Reading: 10.0-10.4
	16 (Th)	Sociolinguistics: Ethnicity and Gender Language Planning PROJECT DUE	Reading: 13.0-13.3 Written: Sociolinguistics Project
	21 (T)	Sociolinguistics: Video Journal Due	Written: Journal
	23 (Th)	Sociolinguistics: Video	
	28 (T)	Review for Final	
	30 (Th)	Review for Final	Extra Credit Due

Student Information Sheet

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Name: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

May I share your e-mail address and phone number with the class so that you can find study partners and contact each other in case of absence? (Circle one)

Yes, E-mail & Phone

Yes, E-mail Only

Yes, Phone Only

No, Please Do Not Share

Year (Circle): Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior (+) Graduate

Major(s): _____

Minor(s)/Certificate(s): _____

Native Language(s): _____

Other Languages You Speak/Sign or Have Studied: _____

Other Languages You Find Interesting? _____

Places You Have Lived and Ages at Time of Residence:

(This helps me get an idea of the class' familiarity with different accents/dialects)

ex. Chicago, Illinois Birth-7

Carmel, Indiana 7-18

Why did you enroll in this course? Is there anything in particular that you would like to see covered?

What do you plan to do in your future career? _____
