

Syllabus

LC 261/ LING 201

Introduction to the Linguistics Study of Foreign Languages

BRNG B260

TTh 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm

Instructor: Olga Dmitrieva
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Office Hours: Thu 3 pm - 5 pm

Course Description

This course offers a broad overview of language and the psychological and social phenomena associated with its use. Linguistics is the scientific study of language systems and language use in form, meaning, and context. In this course, we will examine language structures, such as Phonetics and Phonology (sound systems), Morphology (word formation), and Syntax (combinatory properties). In addition, we will discuss cognitive/neurological issues such as language in the brain, animal communication, and language acquisition. Lastly, this course will approach societal issues, including Pragmatics (language in context), language/dialectal variation and language change. As a whole, this course seeks to establish what language is and how it is used in human interaction.

Course goals

- Develop an understanding of the language as an object of scientific inquiry.
- Develop a critical awareness of explanations for language-related phenomena.
- Learn a vocabulary for talking about language and linguistic phenomena.
- Develop basic skills for conducting a linguistic analysis.
- Develop general academic skills in critical thinking and communication.

Class Format

This course will use both lectures and class activities. The lectures are designed to reinforce and augment the material presented in the readings. Class activities will include review and practice, problem solving, and discussion.

Required Text

Language Files, 11th edition, Ohio University Press.

Course Requirements

There will be 5 homework assignments, 6 in-class short (5-10 min) quizzes, a midterm exam, one in-class presentation per student, and a final project. Homework assignments will be due in class the week after their assignment, unless otherwise announced. For the in-class presentation each student will select a news article of their selection on a linguistic topic of their choice. A sign-up sheet will be passed around on the second class of the semester. By week 2 all students must sign up for their presentation day. All reading assignments for a given day should be completed before you come to class on that day.

Grading

Written assignments and quizzes -----	35%
Midterm exam-----	25%
Final project -----	25%
Article Presentation-----	15%

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all class meetings. If you miss a class, **it is your responsibility to find out from your classmates and the course blackboard site what you missed and make up any work that was done in class.** The class schedule, all class notes, and assignments with associated deadlines will be posted on the course blackboard site.

Students are expected to be present for every meeting of the classes in which they are enrolled. Only the instructor can excuse a student from a course requirement or responsibility. When conflicts or absences can be anticipated, such as for many University sponsored activities and religious observations, the student should inform the instructor of the situation as far in advance as possible. For unanticipated or emergency absences when advance notification to an instructor is not possible, the student should contact the instructor as soon as possible by email. When the student is unable to make direct contact with the instructor because of circumstances beyond the student's control, and in cases of bereavement, the student or the student's representative should contact the Office of the Dean of Students.

Details at <http://www.purdue.edu/advocacy/students/absences.html>

Grief Absence Policy for Students

Purdue University recognizes that a time of bereavement is very difficult for a student. The University therefore provides the following rights to students facing the loss of a family member through the Grief Absence Policy for Students (GAPS). GAPS Policy: Students will be excused for funeral leave and given the opportunity to earn equivalent credit and to demonstrate evidence of meeting the learning outcomes for missed assignments or assessments in the event of the death of a member of the student's family.

Details at http://www.purdue.edu/studentregulations/regulations_procedures/classes.html

Missed or Late Work

Late assignments are not accepted, except in exceptional circumstances (see below) and, if possible, you must have permission from me in advance to turn in work late. If you miss an assignment (that is, just not do it), you will get a zero for that assignment.

Exceptional circumstances: Exceptional circumstances include religious obligations, serious personal illness or injury, sudden hospitalization or death of an immediate family member, and illness requiring home-stay of a dependent. If the absence or late assignment can be anticipated (e.g. religious obligation), you must notify me at least one week prior. Unanticipated absences may be excused only within 2 weeks following the date of the absence and upon presentation of verifiable written documentation.

Details at http://www.purdue.edu/studentregulations/regulations_procedures/classes.html

Students with Disabilities: If you believe you have a disability, medical condition or other special circumstances that may affect your participation in this course please speak with me within the first two (2) weeks of the semester and contact the Dean of Students Office (Schleman 207, 4-1747) so that suitable arrangements can be made.

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.

Student Academic Misconduct (a.k.a. cheating): You are welcome to *discuss* your homework assignments and work on them together with your colleagues, but you must *write* each assignment on your own. If you work together with colleagues, make sure you can also solve all the problems on your own when your colleagues are not there to help you. You may not collaborate with anyone on any exams. On all assignments, copying answers from classmates, allowing others to copy your answers, and all other forms of plagiarism and cheating as given in the university guidelines will result in a failing grade for the assignment, and the incident may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. **Do not present the work of others as your own.** Please review carefully the brochure “Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students” available at the Dean of Students Office (Schleman 207) or online at: <https://www.purdue.edu/odos/academic-integrity/>

Student Rights and Complaints: The official policies of the University concerning student rights and complaints, honesty and academic misconduct can be found in the *Academic Procedure Manual*, and in *University Regulations*, available from the Office of the Dean of Students or at: http://www.purdue.edu/studentregulations/student_conduct/studentrights.html

Any concerns about grades given on a particular assignment must be put in writing and given to the course instructor along with a copy (or the original) of the graded assignment. Your written statement should include a description of why you believe the grade to be incorrect, and what you believe the grade should be. The course instructor is the final arbiter on all such decisions. The only exception to this rule is obvious errors in arithmetic, which may be brought to the instructor’s attention directly.

Campus Emergency: 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. Here are ways to get information about changes in this course: Blackboard web page and my email address: odmitrie@purdue.edu. You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email on a frequent basis. Additional emergency resources: www.purdue.edu/ehps/emergency_preparedness/index.html

Nondiscrimination

Purdue University prohibits discrimination against any member of the University community on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or status as a veteran.
Details at: http://www.purdue.edu/purdue/ea_eou_statement.html

Tentative course timetable (subject to change)

Week	Date	Topic	Reading/ Assignment
1	Aug 23, 25	Course introduction What is Linguistics? Linguistic Applications	LF Ch. 1 LF Ch. 17
2	Aug 30, Sep 1	Phonetics Phonetics	LF Ch. 2 <i>1st HW assigned</i>
3	Sep 6, 8	Phonetics PR 1 Phonology PR 2	LF Ch. 2, 3 <i>1st HW due</i>
4	Sep 13, 15	Phonology PR 3 Phonology PR 4	LF Ch. 3 <i>Quiz 1</i> <i>2nd HW assigned</i>
5	Sep 20, 22	Morphology PR 5 Morphology PR 6	LF Ch. 4 <i>2nd HW due</i>
6	Sep 27, 29	Syntax PR 7 Syntax PR 8	LF Ch. 5 <i>Quiz 2</i> <i>3rd HW assigned</i>
7	Oct 4, 6	Semantics PR 9 Pragmatics PR 10	LF Ch. 6, 7 <i>3^d HW due</i>
8	Oct 11 Oct 13	<i>No class, October break</i> Review for Midterm	<i>Final project proposals due</i>
9	Oct 18, 20	Midterm TBD PR 11	
10	Oct 25 Oct 27	Language Acquisition PR 12 Language Acquisition PR 13	LF Ch. 8 <i>4th HW assigned</i>
11	Nov 1, 3	Language and the Brain PR 14 Language and the Brain PR 15	LF Ch. 9 <i>4th HW due</i>
12	Nov 8, 10	Language variation PR 16 Language variation PR 17	LF Ch. 10 <i>Quiz 3</i> <i>5th HW assigned</i> <i>Project update due</i>
13	Nov 15, 17	Language Contact PR 18 Language Contact PR 19	LF Ch. 12 <i>5th HW due</i>
14	Nov 22 Nov 24	Language Change <i>No</i> <i>class, Thanksgiving vacation</i>	LF Ch. 13 <i>Quiz 5</i>
15	Nov 29, Dec 1	Language and Culture Animal Communication or Spill-over	LF Ch. 11, 14 <i>Quiz 6</i>
16	Dec 6, 8	Final project work	
17	Finals Week	<i>Final project due on Dec 13</i>	