

Ling 20001: Introduction to Linguistics

Spring 2017

Location: Rosenwald 015
MWF 10:30am – 11:20am

Instructor: Natalia Pavlou Email: npavlou@uchicago.edu	Office hours: M 11:30am-12:30pm and by appointment Location: Rosenwald 229
TA: Jacob Phillips Email: jbphillips@uchicago.edu Section: Fridays 1:30pm-2:20pm , HM130	Office hours: R 10:30-11:30am Location: Social Sciences 010C
TA: Ksenia Ershova Email: kershova@uchicago.edu Section: Fridays 2:30pm-3:20pm, C 409	Office hours: T 1-2pm Location: Social Sciences 010D

Course Description

Overview:

This course will introduce you to basic linguistic concepts related to the study of human language by focusing on the main methods, findings and problems in the field. In this course, we will explore the following subfields of Linguistics:

- Phonetics:** The sounds of human languages and their physical properties
- Phonology:** The way speech sounds are organized into systems
- Morphology:** The way language units combine to form words
- Syntax:** The way words combine to form phrases and sentences
- Semantics:** The meaning of words, phrases and sentences
- Pragmatics:** How speakers use language in context to perform communicative tasks
- Sociolinguistics:** How language differs according to the social context
- Historical Linguistics:** How languages change over time
- Language acquisition:** How humans acquire language
- Psycholinguistics:** The way humans process language

Course Objectives

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize and use basic linguistic terminology
- Have a clear distinction between different core areas of Linguistics: syntax, morphology, semantics, pragmatics, phonology and phonetics and be familiar with other subfields
- Identify different methodologies for the study of languages
- Apply the tools of linguistic analysis to the sounds, words and sentences of a language

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for enrollment in this course and this course presupposes no background in linguistics or particular languages. The more languages you have studied, the better, but you do not need to speak any languages beyond English in this course or to pursue a linguistics major.

Course Details

Grade Distribution

Research Awareness.....	5%
Attendance/ Participation.....	10%
Assignments.....	40%
Midterm Exam.....	20%
Final Exam.....	25%

Research Awareness Requirement

The research awareness requirement aims to get you acquainted with the different ways linguists conduct research. This requirement can be fulfilled in any of the two following ways:

Option 1:

One of the methodologies used in the field of Linguistics concerns experimental techniques in a laboratory setting. During the course, both English native and non-native speakers can take part in an ongoing study as part of the Linguistics Department human subject pool. Visit <http://uchicagoling.sona-systems.com> and request an account; you will then be able to view and sign up for ongoing studies. Participation in experiments allows students to directly contribute to research programs in a way that is otherwise seldom possible at the undergraduate level.

Option 2:

You can fulfill the research awareness requirement by attending one of the many linguistics talks held during the quarter, such as a Linguistics Department colloquium, a talk in the workshops/reading groups (e.g. Morphology & Syntax Workshop, Semiotics: Culture in Context, Workshop in Linguistics and Philosophy, Workshop on Language Variation and Change, Phonetics and Phonology Reading Group), or a talk presented at the Chicago Linguistics Society Conference (May 25-27). You will be required to write up a **one-page** critical summary of the topic discussed. The best way to learn about upcoming talks is to subscribe to the Linguistics Departments mailing list, UCLinguist, at <https://listhost.uchicago.edu/web/info/uclinguist>

You can also find the workshop, colloquia, and conference schedules online:

<http://linguistics.uchicago.edu/news-events/colloquia>

<http://linguistics.uchicago.edu/news-events/workshops>

Attendance/Participation

Attendance in lectures and section is obligatory.

Assignments & Exams

Assignments will be given on Wednesday, and are due back to your TA, who will be grading all of your homeworks, at the beginning of class on the following Monday.

All homeworks should be **typed and printed**. Only hard-copies are allowed, and no email submissions will be accepted. Homework submitted late will be deducted one letter grade for each day it is late.

The final exam will be in **Week 11**. No makeup exams will be given [exception: medical emergency].

Readings & Website

We will be reading introductory texts from different textbooks, but for general reference you can rely on *Contemporary Linguistics* by William OGrady, John Archibald, Mark Arono, and Janie Rees-Miller. Slides from lectures, readings, assignments and the rest of the materials will be posted on Chalk. Please contact me if you do not have access to the website.

Schedule

Wk.	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
1	March 27 Basics I	March 29 Basics II	March 31 Phonetics I
2	April 3 Phonetics II	April 5 Phonology I	April 7 Phonology II
3	April 10 Morphology I	April 12 Morphology II	April 14 Morphology III
4	April 17 Syntax I	April 19 Syntax II	April 21 Syntax III
5	April 24 Syntax IV	April 26 Syntax V	April 28 Midterm
6	May 1 Semantics/Pragmatics I	May 3 Semantics/Pragmatics II	May 5 Semantics/Pragmatics III
7	May 8 Historical Linguistics I	May 10 Historical Linguistics II	May 12 Sociolinguistics I
8	May 15 Sociolinguistics II	May 17 Sociolinguistics III	May 19 Language Acquisition/ Psycholinguistics I
9	May 22 Language Acquisition/ Psycholinguistics II	May 24 Language Acquisition/ Psycholinguistics III	May 26 Wrap-up/Overflow
10	May 29 NO CLASS	May 31 Guest Lecture Emilia Molimpakis (UCL)	June 2 <i>Reading Period</i>