

LIN 306 Introduction to the Study of Language  
Spring 2010

Dr. Nora England  
MWF 11-12 CAL 100

**Office/Hours:** CAL 504, MWF 10:00-11:00 Phone: 471-9014. Email:  
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This course introduces you to the study of human language: how human languages are structured, how they function in society, how language is acquired by children and adult learners, how the languages of the world evolved, how the world's languages are both different and similar, how language ties in with human biology, and how linguistic diversity and multilingualism are factors in politics and society. In short, everything you always wanted to know about language, and maybe a few things you never even thought to ask about!

**Textbook:** Fromkin, Victoria, Robert Rodman, and Nina Hyams, *Introduction to Language*, 8<sup>th</sup> edition. Publisher: Thomson Wadsworth, ISBN 1-4130-1773-8

**Website for phonetics:** Ladefoged, Peter. International Phonetic Alphabet.  
<http://phonetics.ucla.edu/course/chapter1/chapter1.html>

**Homework:** This is a homework-intensive course. Homework is assigned almost every week, and *it must be turned in at the beginning of the class session when it is due*. Each assignment is noted on the course outline and is due on Fridays. **No homework will be accepted late** except for a very good reason, like a *documented* illness, *and then only when* you have notified me or a TA *in advance* of your absence. Send an e-mail message to me or a TA. **No homework will be accepted by e-mail**; it must be submitted on paper.

**Make-ups and late work:** Make-up exams will be given only for good cause such as a documented illness, an excused absence (such as participation in a UT sports team), or a conflict with a religious holiday. If you know you are going to miss an exam, and you have a very good reason, contact me or a TA by e-mail before the fact, not after.

**Attendance:** Attendance is required. You are permitted to have three unexcused absences. Each unexcused absence over three will count as one point (out of 100) from your final grade. You should sign in on the attendance sheet when it is passed around in each class. Tests will cover class lectures and discussion as much as readings, so regular attendance will help you with them. Coming late to class, leaving early, or dropping off your homework and then leaving count as an absence.

**Students with disabilities:** For students with disabilities, I am available to discuss any appropriate academic accommodations that might be necessary. Before course accommodations are made, a student may be required to provide documentation to the Office of the Dean of Students–Services for Students with Disabilities.

**Grades:** There will be three scheduled in-class examinations. They will each count 25% for your final grade. The homework counts the other 25%. If you do not turn in a homework, your grade for that homework will be 0. If you turn it in, your minimum grade (if complete) will be 7

(out of a possible 10). Grades of 8 will be given for average homeworks, 9 for good, and 10 for very good. Therefore, turning in **something** is much better than not turning in anything at all.

**Cheating. DON'T DO IT!** You may discuss your homework assignments with other students in the class, but you must do all your own work. Do not share information during tests, and do not let someone else sign the attendance sheet for you or sign in for someone else. Any form of cheating is taken very seriously, and you will be expelled from the class with an F if caught. It isn't worth it.

### **COURSE OUTLINE:**

All reading assignments are due by the Monday class of the week they are assigned, except where noted. All homework exercises (from the end of the chapter except where noted) are due in the Friday class.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Starts</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
1	1/18	Introduction	Chap. 1 (Friday)	Exx. 2a-k, 9
2	1/25	Brain & Language	Chap. 2	Exx. 2, 3, 5, 8, 12
3	2/1	Morphology	Chap. 3	Exx. 5, 6, 8, 9, 17
4	2/8	Syntax	Chap. 4	Exx. 3, 4, 6, 7a-f
5	2/15	Syntax 2	Chap 4 (read it again)	Exx. 13, 18, 21, 22
6	2/22	Review	---	<b>Exam, weeks 1-6 (Fri 2/26)</b>
7	3/1	Semantics	Chap. 5	Exx. 6d-h, 10, 13a-e, 16, 19a-f
8	3/8	Phonetics	Chap. 6	Exx. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11

### **SPRING BREAK**

9	3/22	Phonology	Chap. 7	Exx. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6
10	3/29	Phonology 2	Chap.7 (read it again)	Exx. 8, 14, 15, 16, 17
11	4/5	Review	---	<b>Exam, weeks 7-11 (Fri 4/9)</b>
12	4/12	Lg. Acquisition	Chap. 8	Exx. 6, 7, 9, 12
13	4/19	Sociolinguistics	Chap. 10	Exx. 2, 7; handout
14	4/26	Language Change	Chap. 11	Exx. 2, 7, 10, 11, 12
15	5/3	Review	---	<b>Exam, weeks 12-15 (Fri 5/7)</b>