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LING 270S.01: Introduction to Linguistics

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I. CONTACT INFORMATION

- Class Time/Location: T, R 11:10-12:30 / SS 344
- Professor: Irene Appelbaum
- Office: Social Sciences 211
- Phone: (406) 243-4837
- Office Hours: T 1:10-2:00, W 11:10-12:00 & by Appt.
- Email: irene.appelbaum@umontana.edu

II. TEXTBOOK

- *Language Files: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics*, 11th Edition, Department of Linguistics, The Ohio State University. Columbus: The Ohio State University Press (June 28, 2011). ISBN-10: 081425179X. (LF)
- The textbook is available for purchase at The Bookstore in the University Center.
- Be sure to purchase the most recent edition of this book: **11th edition, published in 2011.**
- A copy of the textbook has been placed on **2-hr. Traditional Reserve** at the Mansfield Library.
- Please bring the textbook to class with you everyday.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a broad introduction to the study of language and linguistics. In the first part of the course we will analyze language in terms of different levels of structure: the sounds of language (phonetics & phonology), words and word parts (morphology), and phrases and sentences (syntax). Central questions to be addressed include: *How are the sounds of speech produced? How are complex words built up from simple words and word-parts? How are new words created? How are words grouped into grammatical categories? How does a sentence differ from a mere string of words? How can the structure of a sentence help explain its meaning?* The second part of the course investigates a variety of topics including: how the meaning of an utterance changes depending on the speech situation (pragmatics); how the variety of a language spoken is influenced by geographical & social factors (language variation); how languages change over time; how an infant acquires language (language acquisition); how language and culture interact; and factors leading to language endangerment.

IV. LEARNING OUTCOMES

After successfully completing this course, you should have an understanding of the basic units and principles involved in analyzing the sound, word, and sentence structure of language. More specific learning outcomes include:

- the ability to analyze complex words in terms of free and bound morphemes
- the ability to distinguish inflectional morphemes from derivational morphemes
- knowledge of the central components of speech production
- ability to provide articulatory descriptions of the consonant and vowels of English
- an understanding of the difference between the phonemes and allophones of a language
- knowledge of how to diagram a variety of sentences
- knowledge of how language varies depending on geographical and social factors
- an understanding of how languages change over time
- knowledge of the relative stages of phonological and syntactic acquisition in the infant.

V. ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Your work in this course will be assessed as follows:

Homework: Homework will be assigned in class regularly and posted on Moodle after class. Unless otherwise specified, homework is due the following class period. Typically, homework will not be collected or graded, but your participation grade may suffer if you are repeatedly unable to provide homework responses to when called upon to do so. However, there will also be **6 graded homework assignments**. These assignments will be announced at the time the homework is assigned and will also be posted on Moodle after class. Graded assignments will be collected at the beginning of the following class period. Please bring a second copy of your homework to go over in class on these days. You will receive credit for submitting a completed homework on time. Since homework is a way for you to learn and practice the material, you are not expected to answer all the questions correctly. (On the other hand, the answers are usually very readily available from readings and slides.). If you miss class on a day a graded homework is assigned, it is your responsibility to check Moodle for information about the assignment. Being absent on the day a graded homework is assigned is not an excuse for failing to submit the assignment on time. *No late homework assignments will be accepted.*

Tests: There will be **5 in-class, closed-book tests** during the semester. Tests will take place during the first part of the class period and there will be regular class following the test. The dates for the tests are listed below (see **VII. Course Schedule**). Tests may include multiple-choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and short-answer questions. *No make-up tests will be given without a written excuse from a medical doctor or for other excused absences in accord with University Policy.* (See **Participation** section below.) A student with an unexcused absence on a test day will receive a zero for the test.

Final Exam: The final exam will be cumulative, but weighted in terms of material from the second half of the semester. The specific topics to be covered and the format of the final exam will be given later in the semester. *The final exam is scheduled for: Fri., Dec. 12, 10:10-12:10 in LA 306.*

From the University Catalog: *Students may seek relief from writing more than two examinations during the same day. Students who are scheduled for more than two examinations may contact the appropriate faculty to arrange an alternate testing time during the scheduled final examination period. If satisfactory arrangements cannot be made, the student should seek the assistance of his or her dean.* (<http://www.umd.edu/catalog/acad/acadpolicy/default.html>.)

Participation: To receive full credit for this portion of your grade, students must:

- attend class (see Attendance below.)
- be prepared to present and discuss assigned homework (see **Homework** above)
- use laptops, tablets, & other electronic devices *only* for the purpose of taking class notes.
- never, *ever* text during class.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken each class. If you arrive after attendance has been taken, it is your responsibility to add your name to the sign-in sheet at the end of class. More than 3 unexcused absences will negatively affect your participation grade. In accord with University policy, absences will be excused for illness, injury, family emergency or participation in a University-sponsored activity. A written note from a medical doctor is required in the case of illness or injury. Unexcused absences include absences for travel, work, out-of-town visitors, and work for other classes. Written medical excuses must be submitted as soon as you return to class. If you miss class for whatever reason it is your responsibility to find out what you missed.

GRADING

Your course grade will be based on the following calculation:

- HW 18 % (6 x 3% each)
- 5 Tests 60 % (5 x 12% each)
- Final Exam 16 %
- Participation 06 %

The grading scale for your course grade is as follows:

93.00% - 100.00% A	80.00% - 82.99% B -	67.00% - 69.99% D+
90.00% - 92.99% A -	77.00% - 79.99% C +	60.00% - 66.99% D
87.00% - 89.99% B+	73.00% - 76.99% C	0.00% - 59.99% F
83.00% - 86.99% B	70.00% - 72.99% C -	

VI. COURSE POLICIES

Extra Credit/Alternative Assignments: No alternative or extra-credit assignments will be given. Please do not ask! The requirements for this course have been chosen carefully and are, as the name implies, requirements. They are not a "first offer" or a "starting point for negotiation". The dates for the tests are listed in this syllabus and posted on Moodle. Please make note of these dates and plan accordingly.

Student Conduct Code: You are expected to adhere to the University of Montana Student Conduct Code: http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php.

Plagiarism Warning: *Plagiarism is the representing of another's work as one's own. It is a particularly intolerable offense in the academic community and is strictly forbidden. Students who plagiarize may fail the course and may be remanded to Academic Court for possible suspension or expulsion.* (From the Student Conduct Code.)

Course Accommodations Statement (DDS): If you are a student with a disability who will require reasonable program modification in this course, please meet with Disability Services for Students in Lommasson 154 for assistance in developing a plan to address program modifications. If you are already working with Disability Services arrange to meet with me during my office hours to discuss reasonable modifications that may be necessary. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at: <http://www.umt.edu/dss/>.

Moodle: This course has an online Moodle component. The Moodle website will be used to post course materials and to make announcements. It is your responsibility to check Moodle for course announcements and schedule changes. Technical support is available through UOnline Tech Support Desk: (406) 243- 4999, or umonline-help@umontana.edu.

Email: I will use the email address provided for you on the Moodle website for class emails. It is your responsibility to keep informed about information contained in email sent to you through your address listed on Moodle.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE (Subject to Change)

Date	Test	Topic	To Read Before Class
T 8-26		Introduction	-----
R 8-28		Phonetics: Introduction; Speech Production	LF 2.1, 2.2 (through 2.2.3)
T 9-02		Phonetics: English Consonants	LF 2.2 (2.2.4-end)
R 9-04		Phonetics: English Vowels	LF 2.3 (except 2.3.7)
T 9-09		Phonology: Phonemes & Allophones	LF 3.2
R 9-11	TEST 1	Morphology: Words & Word-Formation	LF 4.1 (except 4.1.3)
T 9-16		Morphology: Morphological Processes	LF 4.2
R 9-18		Morphology: Hierarchical Structure	LF 4.4
T 9-23		Morphology: Inflection	LF 4.1.3
R 9-25	TEST 2	Syntax: Syntactic Properties	LF 5.1, 5.2
T 9-30		Syntax: Syntactic Constituency	LF 5.3
R 10-02		Syntax: Syntactic Categories	LF 5.4
T 10-07		Syntax: Constructing a Grammar	LF 5.5
R 10-09	TEST 3	Semantics & Pragmatics	LF 6.1, 6.3; Ch. 7 (all)
T 10-14		Language Acquisition	LF 8.1-8.3, 8.5
R 10-16		Language & the Brain	LF 9.1, 9.2
T 10-21		Speech Production & Perception	LF 9.3, 9.4
R 10-23	TEST 4	Language Change: Language Relatedness	LF 13.1, 13.2
T 10-28		Language Change : History of English	LF 13.3-13.5
R 10-30		Writing Systems	LF Ch. 15 (all)
<i>Election Day - no class</i>			
R 11-06		Language Variation: Dialects & Registers	LF 10.1, 10.2
<i>Veterans Day - no class</i>			
R 11-13	TEST 5	Language Variation: Regional & Social Variation	LF 10.3-10.5
T 11-18		Language & Culture: Language & Thought	LF 11.1, 11.2
R 11-20		Language Culture: Ethnography	LF 11.3-11.5
T 11-25		Language Contact	LF 12.1-12.5
<i>Thanksgiving - no class</i>			
T 12-02		Language Endangerment	LF 12.6
R 12-04		Summary & Review	---
Final Exam: Friday, Dec. 12, 2014 10:10-12:10 in LA 306 (our regular classroom)			

