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### LING 270S.02: Introduction to Linguistics

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#### I. CONTACT INFORMATION

- Class Time/Location: T, R, 9:30-10:50 / LA 306
- Professor: Irene Appelbaum [irene.appelbaum@umontana.edu](mailto:irene.appelbaum@umontana.edu)  
Office/Office Hours: T, R, 11:00-12:00 & by appt.; Social Sciences 211
- Teaching Assistant: Bailey Wike, [bailey.wike@umconnect.umt.edu](mailto:bailey.wike@umconnect.umt.edu)  
Office/Office Hours: M, W, F, 2-3, Social Sciences 254A

#### II. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

- *Language Files: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics*, 11th Edition by Department of Linguistics, The Ohio State University. Columbus: The Ohio State University Press (June 28, 2011). ISBN-10: 081425179X. (LF)  
[Note: This is the penultimate edition of the textbook. You may use the more recent 12th Edition, if you have already purchased it.]
- The textbook is available for purchase at The Bookstore in the University Center.
- Additional assigned readings will be available through the Moodle course site.

#### 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 (historical linguistics); 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:

- an understanding of how speech sounds are produced in the vocal tract
- the ability to transcribe basic English words and phrases phonetically
- an understanding of the difference between the phonemes and allophones of a language
- the ability to analyze complex words in terms of free and bound morphemes
- the ability to distinguish inflectional morphemes from derivational morphemes
- knowledge of how to diagram a variety of sentences
- an understanding of how the context of utterance affects meaning
- 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 language acquisition in the infant
- ability to identify brain structures involved in language processing

## V. ASSESSMENT

Your work in this course will be assessed as follows:

**Homework:** Homework will be assigned on a regular basis. We will go over the homework in the following class period. Most homework will not be collected or graded. However, there will be **5 graded homework assignments** during the course of the semester. Each of these is worth 3 points. Since homework is a way for you to learn and practice the material, you are not expected to answer all the questions correctly. Homework assignments will be posted on Moodle. Graded homeworks will be announced as such in class and, unless otherwise indicated, are due the following class period. Please **submit your homework at the beginning of the class period**. You will not receive credit for a Graded Homework on a day that you are absent from class. (For example, if you miss class without a University-recognized excuse and then leave a copy of your homework on my office door, I will be happy to correct it, but you will not receive credit for that homework.) **If you miss class, it is your responsibility to check the Moodle course site to find out if a graded homework has been assigned. 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. Tests will last approximately 30 minutes and there will be regular class following the tests. The dates for the tests are listed below (see VIII. Course Schedule). Tests may include multiple-choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and short-answer questions. More information about the structure and content of tests will be given prior to each test. 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 Attendance 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 largely cumulative. The specific topics to be covered and the format of the final exam will be given later in the semester. The final exam has been scheduled for: **Tuesday, May 8, 8 AM – 10 AM**, in our regular classroom.

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.

**Participation:** Points will be deducted from this portion of your grade whenever you fail to meet the requirements below:

- attend class (see Attendance section below)
- be prepared to present and discuss assigned homework
- actively participate in in-class exercises
- use laptops, tablets, and other electronic devices only for the purpose of taking notes.\
- never 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.

## VI. GRADING

Your course grade will be based on the following calculation:

• Graded HWs (5*3% each)	15 %
• Tests (5*12% each)	60 %
• Final Exam	20 %
• Participation	<u>5 %</u>
	100 points

The grading scale used for final course grades will be the following:

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	63.00-66.99 % D-
83.00- 86.99 % B	70.00-72.99 % C-	0.00-59.99 % F

## VII. COURSE POLICIES

**Extra Credit/Alternative Assignments:** *No alternative 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.

**Student Conduct Code:** You are expected to adhere to the University of Montana [Student Conduct Code](#).

**Academic Honesty:** All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.

**Course Accommodations:** The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you have a disability that adversely affects your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification. For more information, visit the [Disability Services](#) website.

**Withdrawing from the Course:** From the [Registrar](#): Through the 15<sup>th</sup> instructional day, all classes are dropped in CyberBear. From the 16<sup>th</sup> through the 45<sup>th</sup> instructional day, all classes must be dropped using Drop forms (instructor signature required, advisor signature required for undergraduates). \$10 fee applies. From the 46<sup>th</sup> to the last instructional day prior to finals week, classes must be dropped using the Drop form (instructor and Dean signatures required, advisor signature required for undergraduates). \$10 fee applies.

**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 [UMOnline Technical Support](#): (406) 243- 4999,

**Email:** In accordance with University policy: I will use only the email address provided for you on the Moodle website for class emails; I will only respond to emails sent to me from your University email address; and I will not communicate grade information via email. It is your responsibility to keep informed about information contained in email sent to your University email account.

VIII. Course Outline\*

Date	Tests	Topic	To Read Before Class
Phonetics & Phonology: Sound Structure of Language			
T 01-23		Introduction	---
R 01-25		Representing Speech; Speech Production	LF** 2.1 pp. 38-43
T 01-30		English Consonants	LF 2.2 pp. 44-52
R 02-01		English Vowels	LF 2.3 pp. 53-57
T 02-06		Beyond English; Suprasegmental Features	LF 2.4, 2.5 pp. 58-67
R 02-08	TEST 1	Phonemes & Allophones	LF 3.2 pp. 108-115
Morphology: Word Structure of Language			
T 02-13		Words & Word Formation	LF 4.1 pp. 149-156
R 02-15		Morphological Processes	LF 4.2 pp. 157-164
T 02-20		Hierarchical Structure of Words	LF 4.4 pp.170-173
R 02-22		Morphological Typology	LF 4.3 pp. 165-169
Syntax: Sentence Structure of Language			
T 02-27	TEST 2	Syntactic Properties	LF 5.2 pp. 201-210
R 03-01		Syntactic Constituency	LF 5.3 pp. 211-214
T 03-06		Syntactic Categories	LF 5.4 pp. 215-221
R 03-08		Constructing a Grammar	LF 5.5 pp. 222-229
Context, Variation, and Change			
T 03-13		Semantics	LF 6 pp. 241-259
R 03-15	TEST 3	Pragmatics	LF 7 pp. 271-298
T 03-20		Language Variation	LF 10.1, 10.2 pp. 409-419
R 03-22		Language Variation-cont'd	LF 10.3-10.5 pp. 420-441
T 04-03		Language and Culture	LF 11.1 - 11.2 pp. 453-467
R 04-05		Language and Culture - cont'd.	LF 11.3-11.5 pp. 468-478
T 04-10	TEST 4	Language Contact	LF 12 pp. 486-507
R 04-12		Language Change	LF 13.1 -13.3 pp. 523-536
T 04-17		Language Change - cont'd.	LF 13.4-13.6 pp. 537-547
Language Development and Processing			
R 04-19		Language Acquisition	LF 8.1 - 8.3 pp. 313-334
T 04-24		Psycholinguistics	LF 9.1, 9.2, pp. 356-366
R 04-26	TEST 5	Psycholinguistics - cont'd.	LF 9.3, 9.4 pp. 367-380
Additional Topics			
T 05-01		Types of Writing Systems	LF 15. pp. 591-605
R 05-03		Evolution of Writing Systems	LF 15.3 pp. 606-611
		Animal Communication	LF 14 pp. 569-584

\* Subject to change. See the Moodle course site for the most up-to-date information.

\*\* LF = Language Files, 11th Edition (See II. above).