

Fall 9-1-2018

# LING 470.01M: Linguistic Analysis

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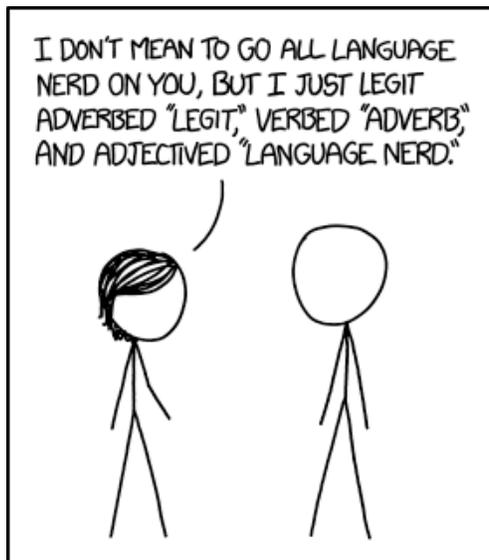
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xkcd.com

## Linguistic Analysis

### LING 470

University of Montana

Autumn 2018  
(Blended Course)

Instructor: Leora Bar-el

### SYLLABUS

*I've always found the study of language intriguing. I had a linguistics professor who always said, "It's man's ability to use language that makes him the dominant species on the planet." I wouldn't go that far. I think what sets us apart from other animals is that we aren't afraid of vacuum cleaners.*  
– Jeff Stilson (comedian)

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#### Instructor information

✉ <leora.bar-el@umontana.edu>

📍 Social Science Building, Room 210

☎ To reach me by phone, you can leave a message in the Anthropology main office 406-243-2693

Office hours: Mondays 1:30pm-3pm and Wednesdays 10:30am-12pm, or by appointment.

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#### Course meeting times and venue

This is a blended course (a.k.a. "hybrid" course, a.k.a. "flipped classroom") which involves both face-to-face and web-based components. We meet as a group on Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00pm-1:50pm in GBB 222 (Gallagher Business Building). Online course materials are accessible through [Moodle](#) (click on Moodle NetID Login).

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#### Technical Support

UMOnline: 406-243-4999 or toll-free 866-225-1641; [email](#); [website](#)

IT Central: 406-243-4357; [e-mail](#); [website](#)

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#### Course description

This course focuses on linguistic analysis. We will look at the formal properties of language and the ways in which these properties are studied by linguists, concentrating on five core components of linguistic analysis: *phonetics* (sounds of language), *phonology* (sound patterns), *morphology* (word structure), *syntax* (sentence structure), and *semantics* (meaning). We will be looking at data from a variety of languages across the world. We will be asking questions such as "What does it mean to know a language?" and "In what ways are languages the same/different?".

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#### Prerequisites

This course has no prerequisites, though an interest in languages is an asset!

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#### Course structure

The content of the course is cumulative so it is important that you work through the material in the order it is presented and that you keep up to date with the material (though reading and working ahead is just fine). This course is divided into **five modules** the topics of which correspond to Chapters 2-6 of our textbook. A short

introduction will also be presented at the beginning of the semester – see Chapter 1 of our textbook. The final week of our course will be devoted to a wrap-up and review of the course material prior to our final exam. For the **online component of the course**, you will be working your way through the units of each module. The units contain downloadable slides that present the central concepts of that unit, as well as practice exercises. You must work through the units prior to class and come prepared to class. **Class meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays** will include review of the assigned material, opportunities for questions/discussion, and activities that put into practice the skills that you learn in the units. Throughout the course you will be working on “**Classwork**” (**CW**) **exercises** in class. CW exercises will be posted on Moodle before class, you will bring a copy to class (hard copy or electronic), complete the exercises in class, and receive a grade for completing them. Time permitting, we will review the answers in class. These exercises are not only a requirement of the course, but will ensure that you are keeping up with and understanding the material you are learning and the skills you are acquiring. There are also **four assignments** that you are required to complete and submit during this course. They cover the first four topics of our course (phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax). There is no assignment for the semantics module, though the semantics module will be covered on our **practice exam** and our **final exam**.

### Learning outcomes

Each of the assessed components of this course listed below focuses on helping you achieve the learning outcomes of this course. Upon successful completion of this course, you will:

- (a) understand the methods that linguists use to study the formal properties of language,
- (b) be able to make generalizations about data from familiar and unfamiliar languages,
- (c) be able to formulate and test a hypothesis,
- (d) have the foundation needed to take further courses in linguistics.

### Learning outcomes by module

MODULE	LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT
PHONETICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transcribe English words/phrases using the International Phonetic Alphabet</li> <li>• Provide articulatory descriptions of sounds in all natural languages</li> <li>• Discover natural classes of sounds in all languages</li> <li>• Understand suprasegmental features such as pitch, length and stress</li> </ul>	CW1-4 A1 Practice exam Final exam
PHONOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discover phonemes and allophones in familiar and unfamiliar languages</li> <li>• Discover phonological processes observed across languages</li> <li>• Write phonological rules that account for allophonic variation</li> <li>• Understand the hierarchical structure of syllables</li> </ul>	CW5-8 A2 Practice exam Final exam
MORPHOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discover morphemes and allomorphs in familiar and unfamiliar languages</li> <li>• Discover morphological processes across languages</li> <li>• Understand the hierarchical structure of morphologically complex words</li> <li>• Identify derivational and inflectional morphemes across languages</li> </ul>	CW9-11 A3 Practice exam Final exam
SYNTAX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand and discover syntactic categories in familiar/unfamiliar languages</li> <li>• Understand the hierarchical structure of sentences and phrase structure rules that regulate them and represent those structures in phrase structure trees</li> <li>• Discover constituents and the parts of the phrase they consist of</li> <li>• Analyze the syntactic structure of familiar and unfamiliar languages</li> </ul>	CW12-15 A4 Practice exam Final exam
SEMANTICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand how meaning of words, phrases and sentences are described.</li> <li>• Analyze how semantic meaning is determined by its parts.</li> <li>• Understand how meaning can be affected by context (pragmatics)</li> </ul>	Practice exam Final exam

### Assessment (undergraduate)

Participation		10%
Classwork	(15 x 1% each)	15%
Assignments	(4 x 10% each)	40%
Practice exam		5%
Final exam		30%

- **Participation** includes class attendance, completion of the introductory questionnaire, contributions to in-class discussions and activities, etc. Being absent or late to class will result in deductions to your participation grade.
- **Classwork (CW)** consists of 15 short exercises that are designed to put your new skills into practice and to ensure that you understand the material. CW exercises will be posted on Moodle before class. You will bring a hard copy or electronic copy of the CW exercises to class, complete them in class, and receive a grade for completing them. Each CW exercise is worth 1% of your final grade. Unless prior arrangements have been made or extenuating circumstances arise, CW not completed in class cannot be accepted and will result in a 0% grade for that CW. You must come prepared to each class having reviewed the assigned material in order to complete these exercises.
- **Assignments** will be available for downloading the week before they are due and will cover all the material in the module. Unless otherwise noted, assignments are due by 1pm MST the days listed in the schedule below. Assignments are each worth 10% of your final grade. Unless prior arrangements have been made or extenuating circumstances arise, assignments submitted within 24 hours following the deadline will receive a maximum grade of 50%. Unless prior arrangements have been made or extenuating circumstances arise, assignments submitted after that cannot be accepted and will result in a 0% grade for that assignment. See also submission instructions below.
- Prior to our final exam a **practice exam** will be posted on Moodle. You will complete and upload your practice exam to Moodle by 1pm Dec 4 (before class), and also bring a hard copy or electronic copy of your completed practice exam to class for our in-class review.
- The **final exam** will take place during finals week on **Wednesday December 12, 3:20pm-5:20pm**. Finals week information is available on the [registrar's website](#).
- **Plagiarism** is an offence and is not tolerated. You are welcome (and encouraged!) to work together with classmates, but you **must** write up your submitted work **on your own**.

### Assessment (graduate)

Participation		10%
Classwork	(15 x 1% each)	15%
Assignments	(4 x 10% each)	40%
Practice exam		5%
Final exam		25%
Squib		5%

In addition to the undergraduate requirements, graduate students will write a 5-page squib. Squibs are due by **12:00pm Monday December 10**. Further information will be made available to graduate students later in the term.

### Grading criteria

A	93-100%	B+	87-89%	C+	77-79%	D+	67-69%	F	Below 60%
A-	90-92%	B	83-86%	C	73-76%	D	63-66%		
		B-	80-82%	C-	70-72%	D-	60-62%		

### Required text

- O'Grady, William, John Archibald, Mark Aronoff, Janie Rees-Miller. 2017. *Contemporary Linguistics: An Introduction 7<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's (Macmillan Learning).
- The textbook can be purchased from the [UM Bookstore](#) (follow the Textbooks link). A copy of the textbook is also available to check out on short term loan from the Mansfield library (see Library Reserves below).
- Chapters 1-4 of the textbook can be downloaded from our course Moodle site (in the **Textbook** section).

- Read through the corresponding chapter before beginning each module. Even if you don't understand everything in the chapter, it is to your advantage to be familiar with the topic before progressing through the units.

### Other resources

The following books are not required, but you may find them useful resources:

- Crystal, David. 2008. *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics 6<sup>th</sup> edition*. Malden, MA: Blackwell. [see Mansfield Library holdings listed below]
- Bauer, Laurie and Peter Trudgill (eds.). 1998. *Language Myths*. London: Penguin Books.

### Library Reserves and Catalogue

- This course has a Library Course Reserves webpage. From the [Mansfield Library website](#) click on the Course Reserves tab in the search window. Books on reserve are available from the Information Centre on the main floor of the library (Level 3).
- A copy of *Contemporary Linguistics: An Introduction 7<sup>th</sup> Edition* is on reserve and is available for 24 hr checkout. The call number of the book is BA 504.
- The Mansfield library has circulating copies of the current and previous editions of *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics*, as well as an electronic version of the current (6<sup>th</sup>) edition that you can connect to from this [permalink](#). [note: you may need to login to your library account to access this online version].

### Course Policies and Procedures

- **Attendance:** You are expected to attend every class and be an active participant. Attendance will be taken each class. If you miss a class, inform me by e-mail as early as possible. I also urge you to contact a classmate to catch up on what you missed. Being absent or late to class will result in deductions to your participation grade.
- **Respect your classmates:** Arrive to class on time. You are responsible for all material covered, including announcements, questions/answers, etc., that may occur at the beginning of class. If you are late, please be courteous to your fellow classmates and me – avoid being disruptive. If you anticipate being late to class regularly (e.g., due to a work schedule, a class on the other side of campus, etc.), inform me as soon as possible.
- **Student Conduct Code:** You are expected to be familiar with the *University of Montana Student Conduct Code*, which is downloadable from the [Dean of Students webpage](#). You are also expected to be familiar with the University of Montana Academic Policies and Procedures, which can be found on the [Academic Policies and Procedures webpage](#).
- **E-mail:** Course information will be circulated by e-mail to your UM e-mail address (usually via Moodle, but in some cases, directly to your individual e-mail address). Make sure that you check that e-mail account often. **You are responsible for ensuring that you are able to receive any course information circulated by e-mail.** If you have any concerns about this, please contact me immediately.
- **Course Accommodations Statement (DSS):** 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. If you are already working with Disability Services your responsibilities are to contact me as soon as possible to discuss reasonable and appropriate modifications that may be necessary. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide a reasonable and appropriate modification. For more information, visit the [Disability Services for Students](#) website.
- **Technical Requirements:** Using the Moodle learning environment requires your computer to be set up to view and download documents (.pptx, .ppsx, .docx, .pdf), webpages, etc. More information can be found on the [UMOnline student support website](#). Contact UMOline for assistance: 406-243-4999 or toll-free 866-225-1641; [UMOnline technical support e-mail address](#). For those of you who are new to the Moodle Learning Environment, please visit [UMOnline](#), follow the **Moodle NedID Login** link, and once you have logged in, click on the **Moodle 101 for Students** (under Useful Links).

- **Submitting Graded Work:** Other than exercises from our textbook, CW exercises, assignments, and the practice exam will be available for downloading from our course Moodle site. CW exercises will be graded in class. Assignments and the practice exam must be uploaded to Moodle as .pdf or .docx files. Files should be named with your last name and the assignment number (e.g., Smith A1). If your operating system does not allow blank spaces in file names, you may use an underscore (e.g., Smith\_A1). Do not use any other symbols in your file name as I may not be able to open the file. Uploaded work must be typed. Unless otherwise indicated or an exception is granted in extenuating circumstances, handwritten files will not be accepted.

### Phonetic Font

- In order to view the phonetic symbols in our course files and to use these symbols to complete your homework/assignments electronically, you must have a phonetic Unicode font installed on your computer. This course uses **Doulos SIL**, a free font available for both Mac and PC operating systems. The font can be downloaded from the [Doulos SIL Download webpage](#).
- Instructions on how to download and install the fonts will vary depending on your computer and operating system. Some advice and links are available from the [Doulos SIL Installing and Using Fonts webpage](#).
- You may find websites such as the [IPA Chart Unicode Keyboard webpage](#) very useful – this site allows you to copy and paste/insert symbols from the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) into your documents. There are similar sites as well as other websites that provide further information about phonetic fonts. Feel free to check them out!
- I will post on our Moodle site a .docx file containing all the phonetic symbols needed to transcribe English, which you can use to copy and paste/insert symbols into your documents.

**Please note that the font is a tool, not a program that you “run”. What you will be using the font for will become clear once we start the course. If you need any help installing fonts, please ask!**

### Proposed Schedule (subject to change)

Week	Day	Date	In class <sup>1</sup>	Online material and textbook readings (to be completed before class) <sup>2</sup>	Deadlines <sup>3</sup>
1	Tues	Aug. 28	Course overview		
	Thurs	Aug. 30	Introduction Phonetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch.1 - Language: A Preview</li> <li>• What is Linguistics? [§1-3, p.1-13]</li> </ul>	Questionnaire due
2	Tues	Sept. 4	Phonetics (cont'd) CW1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch.2 - Phonetics: The Sounds of Language</li> <li>• Module 1: Unit A - Sounds &amp; segments [§1-3, p.17-25]</li> </ul>	CW1 graded in class
	Thurs	Sept. 6	Phonetics (cont'd) CW2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 1: Unit B - Consonants [§4-5, p.26-38]</li> </ul>	CW2 graded in class
3	Tues	Sept. 11	Phonetics (cont'd) CW3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 1: Unit C - Vowels [§6-7, p.38-44]</li> </ul>	CW3 graded in class
	Thurs	Sept. 13	Phonetics (cont'd) CW4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 1: Unit D - Natural classes</li> <li>• Module 1: Unit E - Suprasegmentals [§8, p.45-50]</li> </ul>	CW4 graded in class

<sup>1</sup> In class activities will include review of assigned material, opportunities for questions/discussion, “classwork” (CW) exercises, and other activities that put into practice the material from the units.

<sup>2</sup> “Ch.” refers to chapters from our textbook O’Grady et al. 2017; “Unit” refers to lecture slides and practice exercises on Moodle. Section (§) and page numbers in square brackets refer to the relevant textbook sections/pages corresponding to that unit.

<sup>3</sup> Unless otherwise noted, assignments and the practice exam must be uploaded to Moodle by 1pm MST (before class) on the dates listed in the schedule. CW will be completed and graded in class.

4	Tues	Sept. 18	Phonetics (cont'd)	• Review module; work on A1	
	Thurs	Sept. 20	Phonology	• Ch.3 - Phonology: Contrasts and Patterns • Module 2: Unit A - Phonemes & allophones [§1, p.69-79; Appendix 1-2, p. 107-8]	A1 due
5	Tues	Sept. 25	Phonology (cont'd) CW5	• Module 2: Unit B - Features [§3, p.91-101]	CW5 graded in class
	Thurs	Sept. 27	Phonology (cont'd) CW6	• Module 2: Unit C - Phonological rules [§4, p.102-5; Appendix 3, p.108-9]	CW6 graded in class
6	Tues	Oct. 2	Phonology (cont'd) CW7	• Module 2: Unit D - Phonological processes [Ch.2 §9, p.51-56; Ch.3 Appendix p.110]	CW7 graded in class
	Thurs	Oct. 4	Phonology (cont'd) CW8	• Module 2: Unit E - Syllable structure [§2, p.79-91]	CW8 graded in class
7	Tues	Oct. 9	Phonology (cont'd)	• Review module; work on A2	
	Thurs	Oct. 11	Morphology	• Ch. 4 - Morphology: The Analysis of Word Structure • Module 3: Unit A - Morphemes [§1.1, p.121-4] • Module 3: Unit B - Morphophonology [§1, p.124-5; §6, p.151; Appendix p.153-4]	A2 due
8	Tues	Oct. 16	Morphology (cont'd) CW9	• Module 3: Unit C - Morphological processes [§1.2, p.125-9; §5, p.142-50]	CW9 graded in class
	Thurs	Oct. 18	Morphology (cont'd) CW10	• Module 3: Unit D - Derivation and Inflection [§2-4, p.129-142] • Module 3: Unit E - A closer look at inflection	CW10 graded in class
9	Tues	Oct. 23	Morphology (cont'd) CW11	• Module 3: Unit F - Hierarchical structure of words	CW11 graded in class
	Thurs	Oct. 25	Morphology (cont'd)	• Review module; work on A3	
10	Tues	Oct. 30	Syntax	• Ch.5 - Syntax: The Analysis of Sentence Structure • Module 4: Unit A - Categories [§1.1, p.167-172]	A3 due
	Thurs	Nov. 1	Syntax (cont'd) CW12	• Module 4: Unit B - Phrase structure	CW12 graded in class
11	Tues	Nov. 6	<b>Election Day – No class</b>		
	Thurs	Nov. 8	Syntax (cont'd) CW13	• Module 4: Unit C - Constituency [§1.4, p.178-9]	CW13 graded in class
12	Tues	Nov. 13	Syntax (cont'd) CW14	• Module 4: Unit D - Parts of the phrase [§1.2, p.172-8; §2, p.179-183]	CW14 graded in class
	Thurs	Nov. 15	Syntax (cont'd) CW15	• Module 4: Unit E - Word-order typology	CW15 graded in class

13	Tues	Nov. 20	Syntax (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module 4: Unit F - X-bar theory</li> <li>• Review module; work on A4</li> </ul>	
	Thurs	Nov. 22	<b>Thanksgiving – No class</b>		
14	Tues	Nov. 27	Semantics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch.6 - Semantics: The Analysis of Meaning</li> <li>• Unit A: Lexical semantics [§1, p.217-27]</li> <li>• Unit B: Compositional semantics [§3.1-3.3, p.235-41]</li> </ul>	A4 due
	Thurs	Nov. 29	Semantics (cont'd) Course wrap-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unit C: Pragmatics [§4, p.245-51]</li> </ul>	
15	Tues	Dec. 4	Review practice exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review for exam; <b>complete practice exam</b></li> </ul>	Practice exam due
	Thurs	Dec. 6	Review practice exam (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review for exam</li> </ul>	
<b>Finals week</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM: Wednesday December 12, 3:20pm-5:20pm</b>				

**This syllabus is subject to change**