

**Linguistics 270: Introduction to Language in the Social Sciences**  
**Spring 2005**

**Time:** TR 10:30-12:18    **Place:** 173 Mendenhall Labs

**Instructor:**

**Office hours:**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

**Office:**

**Mailbox:**

**Course Goals**

The course will:

- make you more aware of your own beliefs and attitudes concerning language(s).
- show you how diverse human languages are, and yet how fundamentally similar they are in many ways.
- acquaint you with a representative sample of most of the fields within the study of language.
- show you some of the techniques used in analysis of language.
- acquaint you with the basic concepts necessary for possibly pursuing further linguistic studies.

Examples will be taken from various languages, although primarily from English. However, the focus of the course is not on any specific language or languages; rather, it is on properties common to all languages and on ways in which languages may differ.

**Textbooks**

Required reading

*Language Files*, Steward T. W. & N. Vaillette (eds), OSU Press, 9th edition

Required reading

*Language Myths*, Bauer, L. & P. Trudgill (eds.), Penguin

**Readings**

Readings are to be done before class. Some of the readings will not be covered in class, but homeworks, quizzes and exams will assume that you have read them all. There may also be some short additional readings (e.g., an online article) not mentioned in the schedule.

**Course Requirements**

Grading in this course is based on the following: homework, quizzes, exams, "Linguistics outside the classroom", in-class activities, and active class participation. Details concerning these requirements are given below.

**1. HOMEWORK**

There will be 4 take-home assignments. You will have at least a full week to complete each assignment. Turning in late work will place you at my mercy, and all late work must be discussed with me or it will not be accepted at all. You may work with other

students. However, you must inform me of whom you worked with and you must write up your assignments independently.

## **2. QUIZZES**

There will be three small quizzes during the quarter. They will all be WebCT-based (<http://class.osu.edu>). You must work on each quiz on your own and cannot consult with anyone (except the instructor), although you will be allowed to consult your own notes, textbooks etc.

## **3. MIDTERM**

There will be a take-home midterm assigned on Thursday, 4/28/05 and due at the beginning of class on Tuesday 5/3/05. You are expected to think about and work on the test independently, but feel free to consult with me if you have any questions. You may, of course, consult your notes and books. You will be tested on all the material covered from the first day of class up to Tuesday, 4/26/05.

## **4. FINAL**

The final examination will be a take-home, much like the midterm. It will primarily cover the material presented in the second half of the class, but will require familiarity with the earlier material. I will give it to you on the last day of class, and it will be due at noon on Thursday, 6/9/05.

## **5. LINGUISTICS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM (LOC)**

Information concerning this requirement can be viewed at <http://www.ling.ohio-state.edu/courses/outside.html>. Overall, you must do one of the following:

- participate in two linguistic experiments, or
- attend two talks, or
- participate in one experiment and attend one talk.

You must complete a short questionnaire for each experiment/talk and submit it to me as soon as possible, but not later than the last day of regularly scheduled classes for the quarter. If your schedule makes it impossible for you to fulfill these requirements, you may be eligible to do instead an alternative written assignment, as long as you arrange this with me by the end of the second week of class.

## **6. PARTICIPATION**

You are expected to attend lectures regularly, read the material before coming to class, and contribute to discussions actively.

### **Classroom Etiquette**

Come to class on time. If you are late, be seated quietly. Out of consideration for your classmates, please do not talk with others during lectures and remember to switch off your cell phones. Refrain from packing before the bell rings. Also, we may be discussing sensitive topics from time to time- you will be expected to be respectful of other classmates and their opinions

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	T 3/29 Introduction to course R 3/31 Intro to Language	Syllabus LF 1.1, 1.4; LM 2	
<b>Week 2</b>	T 4/5 Animal Communication R 4/7 Pragmatics	LF Chapter 2 LF 8.1, 8.4	QZ1
<b>Week 3</b>	T 4/12 Semantics R 4/14 Syntax	LF 7.1, 7.2; LM 1 LF 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5; LM 10	HW1 due
<b>Week 4</b>	T 4/19 Morphology R 4/21 Phonetics	LF Chapter 5; LM 19 LF 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4; LM 20	QZ2
<b>Week 5</b>	T 4/26 Phonetics & Phonology R 4/28 Review	LF 4.1, 4.2	HW2 due
<b>Week 6</b>	T 5/3 TBA R 5/5 Writing Systems	LF 15.2; LM 5	midterm due
<b>Week 7</b>	T 5/10 Language Contact R 5/12 Language Change	LF 11.1, 11.4, 11.5 LF 12.1, 12.2, 12.4, 12.5; LM 8	QZ3
<b>Week 8</b>	T 5/17 Language Change R 5/19 Language Variation	LF 12.3, 12.6, 12.7, 12.8; LM 3 LF 10.1, 10.2, 10.4, 10.6; LM 17	HW3 due
<b>Week 9</b>	T 5/24 Language Variation R 5/26 Language and Gender	LF 10.3, 10.5, 10.8; LM 21 LF 10.7; LM 6	HW4 due
<b>Week 10</b>	T 5/31 Psycholinguistics R 6/2 Review	LF 9.1, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5; LM 7	

### **Grading**

Homeworks: 0-200

Quizzes: 0-150

Midterm: 0-200

Final: 0-250

LOC: 0-50

Participation: 0-150

Total: 0-1000

(A 1000-930, A- 929-900; B+ 899-870, B 869-830, B- 829-800; C+ 799-770, C 769-730, C- 729-700; D+ 699-670, D 600-669; E 599-0)

### **Academic Misconduct**

Any material submitted for this course, including assignments, quizzes, exams, and

questionnaires, must represent your own work. Students are reminded that academic misconduct is a violation of the code of Student Conduct and, per faculty rule 3335-31-02, must be reported to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. Some examples of academic misconduct are: violation of course rules as contained in the course syllabus, providing or receiving information during quizzes and examinations, submitting plagiarized work for an academic requirement, and alteration of grades by the student in an effort to change the earned grade or credit. Any suspected academic misconduct will be pursued to the full extent of University disciplinary measures.

### **Special Accommodations Needs**

If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, please contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment we can discuss the course format, anticipate your needs and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need to accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services (150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Ave, Phone: 292-3307), I encourage you to do so.