

# LING 5300: Linguistic Analysis

## Fall 2011

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**Instructor:** Benjamin Slade

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**Office Hours:** TBA

**Section Information:** LING 5300-001

**Place and Time of Class Meetings:** Trimble Hall 215 – Wed 5.30pm–8.20pm

**Description of Course Content:** This course introduces students to the field of linguistics, the systematic study of human language. Drawing on data from a range of languages, it will examine the sound patterns of language (phonetics and phonology), words and word formation (morphology), sentence structure (syntax), meaning (semantics), and language in context (pragmatics). Emphasis will be placed on methods of linguistic analysis to solve problems in phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. May not be used to fulfill M.A. or Ph.D. degree requirements in linguistics.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- identify and explain key terms and concepts in the fields of phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics and other areas of linguistics;
- transcribe and read any language data that is written in IPA or a similar phonetic alphabet, as the first step toward analyzing the structure of the language;
- analyze the sound, word and sentence structure of natural language data using the methods of linguistic analysis taught in this course, whether or not the student has previous knowledge of the language;
- successfully solve language problems presented in class, so as to give students the confidence to further investigate theoretical issues and attempt more complex linguistic analysis in higher-level classes;
- identify and summarize a few major theoretical concepts that have influenced the field of language study

**Requirements:** No prerequisites.

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:** Mihalicek, Vedrana, and Christin Wilson. 2011. *Language files: Materials for an introduction to language and linguistics*. 11th edition. Columbus: Ohio State University Press. ISBN: 978-0-8142-5179-9

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:**

WEEKLY HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS (30pts): There will be 10 homework assignments, these will be due a week after they are assigned.

MID-TERM EXAM (30pts): This will take place in class on October 12th, and will cover topics from phonetics to syntax.

FINAL EXAM (30pts): Date will be announced. This will cover topics from semantics to writing systems.

PARTICIPATION (10pts): It is recommended that you come to class on time. However, note that you will be graded for your participation rather than mere attendance.

**Grading Policy:** As indicated in the previous section, 30% of the final grade is constituted by homework assignments, 10% of the final grade is determined by participation, and the remaining 60% is evenly divided between midterm and finale exams.

**Attendance Policy:** Class attendance is required. You are responsible for the material presented in class lectures and for any handouts passed out in class; for your own benefit, come to class. But if you must miss a class, get notes and information from another student, do the reading, and do the assignments. Assignments are due on the day listed in the schedule, and no later, unless you make arrangements with me prior to the due date.

**Projected Course Outline:** (dates are approximate, and are likely to change)

Week	Topic	Date	Reading
0	What is Linguistics?  Phonetics: English Consonants	31 Aug	Files 1.0–1.4  Files 2.0–2.2
1	Phonetics: English Vowels,  Speech sounds of other langs.,  Suprasegmental features	7 Sep	Files 2.3–2.5
2	Phonetics: Acoustic Phonetics  Phonology: Basic concepts	14 Sep	File 2.6  Files 3.0–3.2
3	Phonology: Application  Morphology: Word formation &  morphological processes	21 Sep	Files 3.3–3.5  Files 4.0–4.2
4	Morphology: Application  Syntax: Basic concepts	28 Sep	Files 4.3–4.5  Files 5.0–5.1

5	Syntax: Phrase structure Syntax: Structure, Constituency, & Word Order	5 Oct	File 5.4 Files 5.5–5.6
6	<b>Mid-term Exam</b> Semantics: Lexical Semantics	12 Oct	Files 6.0–6.3
7	Semantics: Compositional semantics Pragmatics: Language in context	19 Oct	Files 6.4–6.5 Files 7.0–7.3
8	Pragmatics: Speech acts Language Variation	26 Oct	Files 7.4–7.5 Files 10.0–10.4
9	Language & Culture Language Contact	2 Nov	Files 11.0–11.5 Files 12.0–12.7
10	Language Change	9 Nov	Files 13.0–13.7
11	Language Acquisition	16 Nov	Files 8.0–8.5
12	Animal Communication	23 Nov	Files 14.0–14.3
13	Writing	30 Nov	Files 15.0–15.3
14	Catch-Up, Review	7 Dec	
15	<b>Final Exam</b> (8.15pm–10.45pm??)	14 Dec	

## University Policies

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships for more information.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

As a student, your responsibility rests with informing the instructor in writing or email and providing the official documentation from the Office for Students with Disabilities no later than the end of the second week of classes.

**Academic Integrity:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form, including but not limited to "cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2). Suspected violations of academic integrity standards will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

While the Department of Linguistics and TESOL hopes to foster a sense of community in which students can enhance their educational experience by conferring with each other about the lectures, readings, and assignments, all work submitted must be the product of each student's own effort. Students are expected to know and honor the standards of academic integrity followed by American universities; ignorance of these standards is not an excuse for committing an act of academic dishonesty (including plagiarism). If you have questions, please speak with your instructor, your academic advisor, or the department chair.

Please be advised that departmental policy requires instructors to formally file charges with the Office of Student Conduct, following procedures as laid out for faculty (<http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/conduct/faculty.html>), as well as notify the department chair of the filing of the charges.

**Student Support Services Available:** The University of Texas at Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. These resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals to resources for any reason, students may contact the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107 or visit [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources) for more information.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the course syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory will be asked to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS) about the course and how it was taught. Instructions on how to access the SFS system will be sent directly to students through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback data is required by state law; student participation in the SFS program is voluntary.

**Auditors:** The Department of Linguistics and TESOL has a "no audit" policy. However, with instructor permission, Department of Linguistics and TESOL faculty, staff, and students enrolled in a linguistics/TESOL program may be able to sit in on a course. These courses cannot be used to satisfy any degree or program requirements/electives, nor will any credit (including retroactive credit) be granted.