

INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS

LIGN101 – Summer 2019

Course Information

Location: HSS 1305 **Time:** TTh 11:00 – 13:50

Instructor Information		TA Information	
Name:	Anna Mai	Name:	Kati Hout
Office:	APM 4432	Office:	APM 4432
Office Hours:	MF 1-3p W 9-11a	Office Hours:	TBD

When emailing the instructor or teaching assistant, include “LIGN101” at the beginning of the subject line to help ensure your email is appropriately responded to.

1 Course Description

This course is an introduction to the scientific study of language. The bulk of this course covers the core areas of linguistic theory—phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. The rest of the course will cover different approaches to study phenomena in these core areas, including the study of language in society (sociolinguistics), language change (historical linguistics), language and the mind & brain (psycholinguistics & neurolinguistics), language acquisition, language evolution, and computational linguistics.

2 Learning Outcomes

2.1 Attitudes

- Appreciate the diversity of human language
- Recognize the structural systematicity in language
- Understand and apply formal tools used in linguistic analysis

2.2 Skills

- Read and write sentences using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).
- Write basic morphological and phonological rules from curated data sets.
- Draw the tree structure of English words and basic sentences.
- Describe the difference between syntactic grammaticality, semantic coherence, and pragmatic felicity.

3 Textbook

For students who would like an accompanying textbook, I’ll recommend readings from *An Introduction to Language* by Fromkin, Rodman and Hyams. Please Note: Given the textbook’s price, this book is optional, and all readings are recommended, but not required. No exercises from the book will be assigned. Given the book’s pricing, I highly encourage you to find the book used or in an electronic format, and the 9th and 10th US Editions are perfectly fine as written companions to the course material (ISBN: 978-1-4282-6392-5 (9th) and 9781133310686 (10th)). We will not be using the Cengage ‘Digital Platform’ or any of the add-ons, so please do not buy digital content ‘bundles’ or any such other upsells.

4 Syllabus

Week	Date	Topic	Readings	Homework
1	Aug 6	Course Introduction & Phonetics I	Fromkin: What is Language	Survey Due
	Aug 8	Phonetics II	Fromkin: Phonetics	Discussion 1 closes
2	Aug 13	Phonology I	Fromkin: Phonology	PS1 Due
	Aug 15	Phonology II		Discussion 2 closes
3	Aug 20	Morphology	Fromkin: Morphology	PS2 Due
	Aug 22	Language Acquisition & Neurolinguistics		Discussion 3 closes
4	Aug 27	Syntax	Fromkin: Syntax	Midterm Due
	Aug 29	Syntax		Discussion 4 closes
5	Sept 3	Semantics & Pragmatics		PS3 Due
	Sept 5	Sociolinguistics & Language Typology		PS4 Due
	Sept 7			Final Exam & Final Project Due

5 Assessments

- **In-class Participation Questions:** You will be asked at least one participation question at some point during every class meeting. These will give me a chance to assess how well the material is being learned, and will give you an opportunity to ask for review or clarification of any topics you're struggling to understand. Each class period counts for 2% of your grade. The grade for one class period will be dropped, so in total these questions will count for 18% of your final grade.
- **Homework Assignments:** Homeworks are assigned *every class meeting* and are due before the following class meeting. There will be a total of eight homeworks assigned during the course, and each of these will be worth 6% of your grade.
 - There are two types of homework assignment: Discussions (4) and Problem Sets (4).
 - * No Problem Set grades will be dropped.
 - * Your lowest Discussion score will be dropped.

Altogether homeworks will count for 42% of your final grade.

- **Midterm Exam:** The midterm exam will cover the materials discussed during the first three weeks of class, i.e. phonetics, phonology, and morphology. The exam will be a take-home exam and will be worth

10% of your final grade.

- **Final Exam:** The final exam will cover all the materials discussed during class, but will focus on the topics from weeks 4 and 5, i.e. syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. The final exam will be worth 20% of your final grade.
- **Final Project:** You are to find someone who speaks a language you do not speak and ask them a few questions, as described in the project brief given out during Week 3. The final project will be due before the final exam and will be worth 10% of your final grade.

5.1 Grade Breakdown

Participation	18%
Homeworks	42%
Midterm	10%
Final Exam	20%
Final Project	10%

The following will be taken into consideration favorably when assessing borderline grade cases:

- Regular attendance and active participation in class discussions;
- Asking questions during instructor or TA office hours.

I will not respond to emails asking for me to review final grades. Please assume that I already took these factors into consideration before posting final grades.

5.2 Grade Review Policy

I encourage you to consult with me if you have questions about the grading of a homework assignment or exam, or if you feel a grade was assigned in error. In addition to helping ensure that you get the credit you deserve, this checking will improve your retention of the material. However, there is a statute of limitations: all suspected issues with a graded assignment must be brought to my attention *within one week* of the grade for the assignment having been shared with you.

6 Requirements

6.1 Attendance

Regular attendance is extremely important. There are two obligatory sessions of 180 minutes each per week. It's okay if you have to occasionally arrive late or leave early, but I expect that you won't miss class altogether unless you have an exceptionally good reason.

NOTE: Unless you email me in advance to let me know why you are missing class, I will not allow you to make up points in-class participation questions.

6.1.1 Why is attendance required?

- There's nothing like missing a class to make you feel lost, confused, and out of it. Not only do you miss the material, but you get less out of the next class too, sometimes leading to a downward spiral.
- Coming to class will make your life easier and happier: the material makes more sense, assignments and in-class work are easier, etc. When you miss class, it hurts your learning and your grade.
- If you have to miss a class for any reason, it makes more work for you. You will need to find out what happened in class from the course website or from a classmate, look the material over carefully, and only then come to me with any specific remaining questions you may have.

6.2 Participation

Participation is important! Interrupting (politely) to ask questions is highly encouraged. Please just raise your hand and I will call on you. Speaking up, asking questions, and confirming your understanding are valued. Just remember to give others a chance to do the same.

7 Additional Policies

- **Community Policy.** We will abide by the UCSD Principles of Community described at: <https://ucsd.edu/about/principles.html>.
 - Some issues in this course may seem controversial to you, or perhaps difficult to reconcile with your experience and ideas. You should feel free to question any claims made in class or in the readings, or to make claims of your own, but if you do, please use language that is respectful of your interlocutors and be prepared to support your opinion.
 - In cases of flagrant disrespect for your instructors or classmates, your TA and I reserve the right to ask that you leave the class. If such a situation were to arise, you would be required to meet individually with me outside of class before being allowed to attend future class sessions.
- **Accessibility Policy.** Students requesting accommodations for this course due to a disability must provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD), which is located in University Center 202 behind Center Hall. Students are required to present their AFA letters to me and to the OSD Liaison in the Department in advance so that accommodations may be arranged. Contact the OSD for further information: (858) 534-4382, osd@ucsd.edu, <http://disabilities.ucsd.edu>.
- **Communications Policy.** All communications must be courteous and respectful. Your TA and I are happy to take time to help you with anything related to the course, but only if you are polite with your requests for our time.
 - Even if you communicate with us properly, please don't expect to receive a reply to any email outside normal working hours (M–F, 8–4) or within 24 hours of sending your email.
- **Late Work Policy.** During the course you may submit one assignment late without penalty. If you need an extension, you must notify me at least 24 hours before the assignment is due. Additionally, I will ask you to give me a modified date and time for your assignment.
 - Otherwise, all late assignments will be penalized according to how late the assignment is submitted. That being said, it is always better to submit a late assignment than to take a 0 for not submitting anything at all.
- **Academic Integrity Policy.** Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Please take some time to read the UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship (<https://senate.ucsd.edu/Operating-Procedures/Senate-Manual/appendices/2>). I will be conducting this course in full accordance with this policy. In particular, any suspected cheating or plagiarism in the course will be taken very seriously and investigated. If I determine that cheating or plagiarism has taken place, it will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office (<http://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/>), in accordance with UCSD policy. It is not at my discretion whether or not to report instances of suspected academic dishonesty: I am obligated by UCSD policy to report such instances.

- **Collaboration Policy.** You are welcome — in fact, you are encouraged — to discuss all matters related to the course, including any and all assignments, with your fellow students. Find a study buddy, or (better) form a study group. So long as you are abiding by the academic integrity policy above, all is well.
 - The traditional wisdom for university courses is to budget 2 hours of study/homework/project time on your own (or with your study buddy/group) for every 1 hour of classroom time.
- **Electronic Devices Policy.** You are welcome to use a laptop or tablet during class for the express purposes of (a) taking course-content-related notes, or (b) for occasionally looking up course-content-related material on the web. You are not welcome to use any electronic device in class for some reason other than (a) or (b). Such other uses are a distraction to you and to your fellow classmates. Any abuse of this policy will result in the revocation the electronic devices privilege, for yourself and possibly for the entire class.
 - All research on the subject seems to show that (i) humans think we're good at multi-tasking, and (ii) humans are bad at multi-tasking. Your phone and social media can wait until after class.
 - Research also shows that taking notes by hand helps you to learn better, even putting aside the fact that devices tempt us with distractions. Unless you need to take notes on a device, try it by hand.
- **Discrimination and Harassment Policies.** The University of California, in accordance with applicable federal and state laws and university policies, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy (including pregnancy, childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services (including membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service, or obligation for service in the uniformed services). The university also prohibits harassment based on these protected categories, including sexual harassment, as well as sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The nondiscrimination policy covers admission, access, and treatment in university programs and activities.

If students have questions about student-related nondiscrimination policies or concerns about possible discrimination or harassment, they should contact the Office for the Prevention of Harassment & Discrimination (OPHD) at (858) 534- 8298, ophd@ucsd.edu, or reportbias.ucsd.edu.

Campus policies provide for a prompt and effective response to student complaints. This response may include alternative resolution procedures or formal investigation. Students will be informed about complaint resolution options.

A student who chooses not to report may still contact CARE at the Sexual Assault Resource Center for more information, emotional support, individual and group counseling, and/or assistance with obtaining a medical exam. For off-campus support services, a student may contact the Center for Community Solutions. Other confidential resources on campus include Counseling and Psychological Services, Office of the Ombuds, and Student Health Services.

CARE at the Sexual Assault Resource Center - 858.534.5793 or sarc@ucsd.edu Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) - 858.534.3755