

## **LING 2100 - The Study of Language - An Introduction to Linguistics**

Classtime: TR 2:00-3:15 (CRN: 24176)

Location: Zel Miller 245

Instructor: Luke Smith ([luksmith@uga.edu](mailto:luksmith@uga.edu))

Supervisor: Mi-Ran Kim ([mrkim@uga.edu](mailto:mrkim@uga.edu))

Office hours: Monday 1:00 - 3:30 in Gilbert 141 (Linguistics Conference/Seminar Room)

Book: *Language Files*, 11th Edition from The Ohio State University. ISBN-10: 081425179X

### **Class content:**

This course covers the scientific study of language, emphasizing such topics as the organization of grammar, language in space and time, and the relationship between the study of language and other disciplines.

By the end of the semester, you'll be familiar with some of the technical tools linguists use to analyze human language, and with the traditions of philosophical and scientific thought associated with the study of language language.

### **Grading:**

100 - 90% → A      89 - 80% → B      79 - 70% → C  
69 - 60% → D      59 - 0% → F

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Problem Sets    | 25% |
| Quizzes/Tests   | 50% |
| Cumulative Exam | 25% |

- **Problem sets:** Problem sets will be given as very small homework assignments relevant to more analytic section of the course (IPA/syntax). *Protip: They also tell you what's on the test.*
- **Attendance:** Students who miss more than two unexcused class sessions will have their final grade docked two points for each further absence.
- **Extra-credit:** Students will have the option of an extra-credit assignment toward the end of the semester. Some extra-credit will be offered on quizzes.

*As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, "A Culture of Honesty," and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in "A Culture of Honesty" found at: <https://ovpi.uga.edu/academichonesty/academichonestypolicy>. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.*

Towards the end of the semester, you must fill out an evaluation of the instructor and this course located online (<https://www.franklin.uga.edu/evaluation/login.php>).

## Calendar

| Date      | Day | Chapters   | Topic   | Comments                         |
|-----------|-----|------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1/06      | T   | -          | The History of Looking at Language - Introduction to Course |                                  |
| 1/08      | R   | 15         | The Arrival of Language and the Origin of Writing           |                                  |
| 1/13      | T   | 2.1-3      | From Panini to the International Phonetic Alphabet          | <i>Problem set #1 assigned</i>   |
| 1/15      | R   | -          | Articulation and Assimilation                               | <i>Problem set #2 assigned</i>   |
| 1/20      | T   | 2.5        | Syllables and Suprasegmentals                               | <i>Problem set #3 assigned</i>   |
| 1/22      | R   | -          | <b>Quiz on Phonetics and Basics of Language</b>             |                                  |
| 1/27      | T   | 3.1-2      | Dialectical Variation and Sound Perception (Phonology)      | <i>Problem set #4 assigned</i>   |
| 1/29      | R   | 3.3        | Phonological Rules  | <i>Problem set #5 assigned</i>   |
| 2/03      | T   | -          | The Categories of Classical Grammar                         | <i>Problem set #6 assigned</i>   |
| 2/05      | R   | 4.2, 4.4-5 | Cutting Words Apart   | <i>Problem set #7 assigned</i>   |
| 2/10      | T   | 4.3        | Typology and Morphology                                     |                                  |
| 2/12      | R   | -          | <b>Quiz on Phonology and Morphology</b>                     |                                  |
| 2/17      | T   | -          | Structuralism   |                                  |
| 2/19      | R   | -          | The Boasian Tradition - Linguistics as Anthropology         |                                  |
| 2/24      | T   | 11.2       | Linguistic Anthropology and Relativity                      |                                  |
| 2/26      | R   | -          | Language as "Verbal Behavior" - Linguistics as Psychology   | <i>Problem set #8 assigned</i>   |
| 3/03      | T   | -          | The Rise and Fall of the Blank Slate                        |                                  |
| 3/05      | R   | -          | <b>Quiz on Philosophy of Language</b>                       |                                  |
| 3/07-3/15 | -   | -          | <Spring Break; no classes>                                  |                                  |
| 3/17      | T   | 5.1, 5.3   | The Formal and Semantic Properties of Language              | <i>Problem set #9 assigned</i>   |
| 3/19      | R   | 5.5        | The Generative Program - Language as Cognitive Science      | <b>MIDPOINT; PS #10 assigned</b> |
| 3/24      | T   | -          | Phrase Structure Rules Expanded                             | <i>Problem set #11 assigned</i>  |
| 3/26      | R   | -          | Universalizing Syntax: X-bar and Minimalism                 |                                  |
| 3/31      | T   | 9.1-2, 9.7 | The Neurological Reality of Language                        |                                  |
| 4/02      | R   | -          | <b>Quiz on Syntax and Semantics</b>                         |                                  |
| 4/07      | T   | 8.2-3      | First Language Acquisition                                  |                                  |
| 4/09      | R   | -          | Second Language Acquisition                                 |                                  |
| 4/14      | T   | 12.7       | Language Contact and Pidgins and Creoles                    |                                  |
| 4/16      | R   | 7.1-3      | Pragmatics and Culture in Language                          | <i>Problem set #12 assigned</i>  |
| 4/21      | T   | -          | The Evolution of Language                                   |                                  |
| 4/23      | R   | -          | Review/Make-up Day  | <b>Last Day of Class</b>         |
| 4/30      | R   | -          | <b>Cumulative Exam (3:30-6:30; same room)</b>               |                                  |
| 5/11      | R   | -          | <b>All of your grades will be in by 5:00PM this day</b>     |                                  |

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.