



## Introduction to Linguistics

|               |                      |                 |                       |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Course Number | L44 Ling 170D        | Instructor      | Dr. Nick Danis        |
| Semester      | Spring 2019          | Contact         | nsdanis@wustl.edu     |
| Time          | Tu./Th. 8:30–10:00am | Office Location | Psychology 402F       |
| Location      | Mallinckrodt 302     | Office Hours    | Wed 1–3pm or by appt. |

### 1 Description

This course introduces students to the scientific study of language. All major subfields are covered: the physical description of speech sounds (phonetics), the cognitive patterning of these sounds in a speaker's grammar (phonology), the creation and analysis of word and phrase structure (morphology and syntax), and the study of compositional meaning of these sentences (semantics) and their interaction in a discourse (pragmatics). Students will learn the fundamental tools and analytical methodology in each. Additionally, this course covers special topics in language variation, acquisition, and change; and writing systems.

### 2 Course Goals

- Learn the different subfields within linguistics
- Understand representations and methodology within multiple significant subfields of linguistics
- Analyze natural language data within multiple significant subfields of linguistics

### 3 Required Materials

All readings come from *Language Files*, abbreviated LF:

- Department Of Linguistics. 2016. *Language Files: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics*. Ohio State University Press. 768 pp. ISBN: 978-0-8142-5270-3

You must use the 12th edition. Earlier editions are likely to differ in content and organization.

### 4 Grade

Your grade breakdown is shown below.

| Item                       | Pct. |
|----------------------------|------|
| Attendance & participation | 10%  |
| Homeworks                  | 15%  |
| Exams                      | 75%  |

There will be 6 homework assignments and 4 exams. The lowest grade of each will be dropped. All homeworks will be administered online via the course website, and all exams will be in class. You are expected to attend all class sessions.

### Schedule (tentative)

| Date    | Day | Comment   | Reading      | Due |
|---------|-----|---|--------------|-----|
| 1/15/19 | Tu. | What is linguistics?                                  | LF 1.x       |     |
| 1/17/19 | Th. | Phonetics: IPA/Articulation                           | LF 2.0–2.3   |     |
| 1/22/19 | Tu. | Phonetics: Typology                                   | LF 2.4–2.5   |     |
| 1/24/19 | Th. | Phonetics: Acoustics                                  | LF 2.6–2.7   | HW1 |
| 1/29/19 | Tu. | Phonology: Phonotactics                               | LF 3.0–3.2   | HW1 |
| 1/31/19 | Th. | Phonology: Phonemes                                   | LF 3.3–3.5   |     |
| 2/5/19  | Tu. | Phonology: Analysis                                   |              |     |
| 2/7/19  | Th. | Phonology   |              | HW2 |
| 2/12/19 | Tu. | <b>Exam 1 (Phonetics, Phonology)</b>                  |              |     |
| 2/14/19 | Th. | Morphology: Morpheme Classification                   | LF 4.0–4.2   |     |
| 2/19/19 | Tu. | Morphology: Analysis                                  | LF 4.3–4.5   |     |
| 2/21/19 | Th. | Morphology  |              | HW3 |
| 2/26/19 | Tu. | Syntax: Fundamentals                                  | LF 5.0–5.3   |     |
| 2/28/19 | Th. | Syntax: Categories                                    | LF 5.4–5.6   |     |
| 3/5/19  | Tu. | Syntax: Phrase Structure                              |              |     |
| 3/7/19  | Th. | Syntax: Thematic Structure                            |              | HW4 |
| 3/12/19 | Tu. | <i>No class (Spring Break)</i>                        |              |     |
| 3/14/19 | Th. | <i>No class (Spring Break)</i>                        |              |     |
| 3/19/19 | Tu. | Semantics   | LF 6.x       |     |
| 3/21/19 | Th. | Semantics   |              |     |
| 3/26/19 | Tu. | <b>Exam 2 (Morphology, Syntax)</b>                    |              |     |
| 3/28/19 | Th. | Pragmatics  | LF 7.x       |     |
| 4/2/19  | Tu. | Pragmatics  |              |     |
| 4/4/19  | Th. | Language Change                                       | LF 13.0–13.4 | HW5 |
| 4/9/19  | Tu. | Historical Linguistics                                | LF 13.7      |     |
| 4/11/19 | Th. | Language Variation                                    | LF 10.x      |     |
| 4/16/19 | Tu. | Language Acquisition                                  | LF 8.x       |     |
| 4/18/19 | Th. | Writing Systems                                       | LF 15.x      | HW6 |
| 4/23/19 | Tu. | <b>Exam 3 (Semantics, Pragmatics, Special Topics)</b> |              |     |
| 4/25/19 | Th. | Wrap-up & review                                      |              |     |
| 5/3/19  | Fri | <b>Final Exam (Cumulative)</b>                        |              |     |

## 5 Academic Integrity

This course adheres to the university's Academic Integrity Policy (<https://studentconduct.wustl.edu/academic-integrity/>), and takes cheating and plagiarism very seriously. All work completed

online must be done alone, and no resources not approved by the instructor may be used during exams.

## **6 ADA Compliance**

Washington University is committed to providing accommodations and/or services to students with documented disabilities. Students who are seeking support for a disability or a suspected disability should contact Disability Resources at 935-4153. Disability Resources is responsible for approving all disability-related accommodations for WU students, and students are responsible for providing faculty members with formal documentation of their approved accommodations at least two weeks prior to using those accommodations. I will accept Disability Resources VISA forms by email and personal delivery. If you have already been approved for accommodations, I request that you provide me with a copy of your VISA within the first two weeks of the semester. Please see more information at <http://cornerstone.wustl.edu/>.