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## LING 270S.02: Introduction to Linguistics

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## I. CONTACT INFORMATION

Class Time/Location: T, R 11:10-12:30 / GBB L13

Professor: Irene Appelbaum

Office: Social Sciences 211

Phone: (406) 243-4837

Office Hours: M 2:30-3:30; W 11-12 & by appt.

Email: [irene.appelbaum@umontana.edu](mailto:irene.appelbaum@umontana.edu)

## II. READINGS

No textbook has been ordered for the course. The readings for each assignment have been placed on Electronic Reserve (e-res) at the Mansfield Library: <http://www.lib.umt.edu/students-eres>. The Mansfield Library may also be accessed through the UOnline Moodle Home Page (under UOnline Services).

The readings are password-protected. The password to access reserve readings is: **LING270**.

## III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a broad introduction to the study of language and linguistics. In the first part of the course we will analyze language in terms of different levels of structure: the sounds of language (phonetics & phonology), words and word bits (morphology), and phrases and sentences (syntax). Central questions to be addressed include: *How are the sounds of speech produced? How are complex words built up from simple words and word-bits? How are new words created? How are words grouped into grammatical categories? How does a sentence differ from a mere string of words? How can the structure of a sentence help explain its meaning?* The second part of the course investigates a variety of topics including: how the meaning of an utterance changes depending on the speech situation (pragmatics); how a language varies in different geographical settings (language dialects) and in different social settings (speech styles); how a language changes over time (historical linguistics); how language develops in the individual (language acquisition); and how speech is represented by different writing systems.

## IV. LEARNING OUTCOMES

After successfully completing this course, you should have an understanding of the basic units and principles involved in analyzing the sound, word, and sentence structure of language. More specific learning outcomes include:

- the ability to analyze complex words in terms of free and bound morphemes
- the ability to distinguish inflectional morphemes from derivational morphemes
- knowledge of the central components of speech production
- ability to provide articulatory descriptions of the consonant and vowels of English
- an understanding of the difference between the phonemes and allophones of a language
- knowledge of how to diagram a variety of sentences
- knowledge of how language varies according to geographical, social, and other contextual factors
- an understanding of how languages change over time and how language families are identified
- knowledge of the relative stages of phonological and syntactic acquisition in the infant.



## V. ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Your work in this course will be assessed as follows:

**Tests:** There will be 4 tests during the course of the semester, each lasting approximately 30 minutes. Regular class will be held following each test. The dates for the tests are listed below (see **VII. Course Schedule**). The specific topics and the format of each test will be announced prior to each test date. *No make-up tests will be given without a written excuse from a medical doctor or for other excused absences in accord with University Policy (See **Participation** section below). A student with an unexcused absence on a test day will receive a zero for the test.*

**Final Exam:** The final exam will be cumulative, but weighted in terms of material from the second half of the semester. The specific topics to be covered and the format of the final exam will be given later in the semester. ***The final exam is scheduled for: Monday, December 9, 2013, 10:10-12:10 in GBB L13 (our regular classroom).***

From the University Catalog: *Students may seek relief from writing more than two examinations during the same day. Students who are scheduled for more than two examinations may contact the appropriate faculty to arrange an alternate testing time during the scheduled final examination period. If satisfactory arrangements cannot be made, the student should seek the assistance of his or her dean.*

(<http://www.umt.edu/catalog/acad/acadpolicy/default.html>.)

**Participation:** To receive full credit for this portion of your grade, students must:

- attend class (see **Attendance** below.)
- complete and be prepared to discuss each reading assignment
- be prepared to present and discuss assigned homework (see **Homework** below).
- have cell phones put away
- use laptops and tablets *only* for the purpose of taking class notes.

**Attendance:** Attendance will be taken each class. If you arrive after attendance has been taken, it is your responsibility to add your name to the sign-in sheet at the end of class. More than 3 unexcused absences will negatively affect your participation grade. In accord with University policy, absences will be excused for illness, injury, family emergency or participation in a University-sponsored activity. A written note from a medical doctor is required in the case of illness or injury. Unexcused absences include absences for travel, work, out-of-town visitors, and work for other classes. Written medical excuses must be submitted as soon as you return to class. If you miss class for whatever reason it is your responsibility to find out what you missed.

**Homework:** Homework will be assigned on a regular basis. It will be reviewed in class, but not collected or graded. However, your participation grade will suffer if you repeatedly fail to provide answers to the homework when called upon to do so.

## GRADING

Your course grade will be based on the following calculation:

- Tests                                72% (4 @ 18% each)
- Final Exam                        24%
- Participation                       04%

The grading scale for your work in this course is as follows:

93.00% - 100.00% A	80.00% - 82.99% B -	67.00% - 69.99% D+
90.00% - 92.99% A -	77.00% - 79.99% C +	60.00% - 66.99% D
87.00% - 89.99% B+	73.00% - 76.99% C	0.00% - 59.99% F
83.00% - 86.99% B	70.00% - 72.99% C -	

## VI. COURSE POLICIES

**Student Conduct Code:** You are expected to adhere to the University of Montana Student Conduct Code which may be downloaded from: [http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student\\_conduct.php](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php).

**Plagiarism Warning:** *Plagiarism is the representing of another's work as one's own. It is a particularly intolerable offense in the academic community and is strictly forbidden. Students who plagiarize may fail the course and may be remanded to Academic Court for possible suspension or expulsion.* (From the Univ. Catalog: <http://www.umt.edu/catalog/acad/>.)

**Course Accommodations Statement (DDS):** If you are a student with a disability who will require reasonable program modification in this course, please meet with Disability Services for Students in Lommasson 154 for assistance in developing a plan to address program modifications. If you are already working with Disability Services arrange to meet with me during my office hours to discuss reasonable modifications that may be necessary. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at: <http://life.umt.edu/dss/>.

**Moodle:** This course has an online Moodle component. The Moodle website will be used to post course materials and to make announcements. It is your responsibility to check Moodle for course announcements and schedule changes. If you are not familiar with Moodle you are encouraged to do the tutorial at: [http://umonline.umt.edu/Moodle\\_Tip\\_Sheets/](http://umonline.umt.edu/Moodle_Tip_Sheets/). Technical support is available through UOnline: <http://umonline-help.umt.edu/>, (406) 243- 4999, or [umonline-help@umontana.edu](mailto:umonline-help@umontana.edu).

**Email:** I will use the email address provided for you on the Moodle website for class emails. *It is your responsibility to keep informed about information contained in email sent to you through your address listed on Moodle.*

## VII. COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to change)

Date	Topic	Reading (To complete <i>before</i> class)	Tests
T 8-27	Introduction & Overview	----	
MORPHOLOGY			
R 8-29	Word Structure; Compounding	O'Grady et al: 115-22; 127-31	
T 9-03	Derivation & Inflection	O'Grady et al: 122-4; 131-4	
R 9-05	New Words	Blake: 24-32	
PHONETICS & PHONOLOGY			
T 9-10	IPA and Speech Production	Akmajian et al: 66-73	
R 9-12	Vowels	Akmajian et al: 79-84	
<b>T 9-17</b>	Consonants	Akmajian et al: 73-79	<b>TEST 1</b>
R 9-19	Phonemes vs. Allophones	Blake: 143-50	
T 9-24	Syllable and Features	O'Grady et al: 82-84	



SYNTAX			
R 9-26	Word Classes	Blake: 11-18	
T 10-01	Phrase & Sentence Structure; Auxiliary Verbs	Akmajian et al: 153-6; 171-7; 201-6	
R 10-03	Structural Ambiguity; Verb-Ptc Constructions	Fromkin & Rodman: 149-50 ;	
<b>T 10-08</b>	Deep Structure	Fromkin & Rodman: 155-60	<b>TEST 2</b>
SEMANTICS & PRAGMATICS			
R 10-10	The Nature of Meaning	TBA	
T 10-15	Pragmatics	Fasold & Connor-Linton:158-163	
LANGUAGE VARIATION			
R 10-17	Dialect and Contact Languages	Akmajian et al: 275-280; 295-301	
T 10-22	Language and Social Relations	O'Grady: 507-518	
LANGUAGE CHANGE			
R 10-24	Sound Change	Blake: 211-214	
<b>T 10-29</b>	Grammatical Change	Fasold & Connor-Linton: 283-285	<b>TEST 3</b>
R 10-31	Semantic and Lexical Change	TBA	
LANGUAGE CLASSIFICATION			
T 11-5	Genetic Classification	Lyovin: 1-13	
R 11-7	Typological Classification	Lyovin: 13-22	
T 11-12	Indigenous Language of NA	TBA	
THE DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE AND WRITING			
R 11-14	Language Acquisition	Curzon & Adams: 309-339	
<b>T 11-19</b>	Writing and Language	<i>Language Files</i> : 492-503	<b>TEST 4</b>
LANGUAGE PROCESSING			
R 11-21	The Brain and Language	TBA	
T 11-26	Machines and Language	TBA	
R 11-28	<b>THANKSGIVING</b>	---	
THE NATURE OF LANGUAGE			
T 12-3	Human Language vs. Animal Communication	<i>Language Files</i> : 23-37	
R 12-5	Summary & Review	---	
<b>→</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM Mon., 12-09, 10:10-12:10, GBB L13</b>		