

English/Linguistics 111: Introduction to Linguistics (Fall 2006)

T/TH 11:00am-12:15pm, HHRA 3208

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Scope of course: This course provides introductory study of the science of language: principles of sound, meaning, structure, and use, and the interactions of language and society. Topics include related to structure include semantics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and discourse; those related to use focus on language in its social context: regional and social dialects, language acquisition, and English as an international language.

Required texts:

- Yule, George. 2006. *The Study of Language*, 3rd Edition. Cambridge University Press.
- *The Language Files*, 9th Edition. Ohio State Press.
- Selected readings on reserve on Blackboard and in the Jackson library.

Grading:

Short assignments	15%
Literacy autobiography	15%
Group Research Project	20%
Quizzes	20%
Exam	15%
Term Paper	15%

Learning Goals:

Through the readings, assignments, and class activities in this course, you will

1. Examine your own beliefs and attitudes about language and language use in written assignments and class discussions
2. Gain basic knowledge of the major subfields of linguistics (see “scope of course”)
3. Learn and use different methods of linguistic analysis

Overview of Assignments: All work must be turned in on the date due to receive full credit. No late assignments will receive full credit, and none will be accepted more than one week after the due date unless an extension is arranged with the instructor prior to the due date.

Short Assignments: Short assignments are designed to reinforce concepts discussed in class and the readings by applying them to everyday situations and contexts. There are three basic types of short assignments: reflective writing, research writing, and short exercise sets. You have some choice in the short assignments you complete, but must *complete a total of ten short assignments*, including at least two of each type (listed below), two required assignments(*), and one of your own choosing. You may complete additional short assignments for extra credit. Grading criteria for short assignments are accuracy, completeness, and timeliness. A complete list of short assignments is available in the Assignments folder on Blackboard.

	<i>Reflective Writing</i>	<i>Research Writing</i>	<i>Exercise Sets</i>
<i>Assignment #</i>	1, 5, 10, 11, 14*, 15*	7, 8, 9, 12, 13	2, 3, 4, 6,

Literacy Autobiography: In a paper of about 750 words, you will describe and analyze an important event, person, or practice that contributed to your language learning and development. Your analysis of this experience should highlight key principles about language and learning.

Group Research Project: In groups of 3-4, you will research and report on a linguistics topic. The project has two parts, an oral presentation and written annotated bibliography, which are weighted equally in your grade for the project. We will brainstorm topics, organize groups, and visit Jackson library to help you get started on the projects.

Quizzes & Exam: Quizzes will consist of definitions, examples, short answers, and essay questions covering reading, lectures, and assignments. The final exam will be cumulative and similar to the quizzes in format.

Term Paper: As the last paper for this course, you will write a *position/opinion statement* about some aspect/issue of language, linguistics, or literacy. It should be between four-to-six pages, double-spaced with one-inch margins. A personal position/opinion is a synthesis of learning, so cite your sources - both internally and in a Works Cited according to the MLA or APA style guide -- when referring to the theories, ideas, and words of others. This assignment asks that you draw on what you already know or have learned in this course and others.

Absence Policy: *Regular attendance is required.* If you miss three class sessions, your grade will be lowered one letter grade. If you miss more than five classes, you may be dropped from the class with a failing grade. If you do miss a class, you are responsible for finding out about and making up any missed assignments.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism: All UNCG students are responsible for upholding the Academic Integrity Policy, available through the Office of Student Conduct. Collaboration and research are encouraged in completing assignments, but you must credit your outside sources of information appropriately and compose your responses individually. If you have any questions about whether you have plagiarized something, ask me.

Tentative schedule: Assignments may change, so pay attention to updates given in class. You should be prepared to discuss the readings on the date indicated.

SOL = *The Study of Language*; LF = *Language Files*; RR = Reserve Readings

DATES	TOPIC	READING	PAGES	DUE
T 8/15	Introduction & Course Overview			
R 8/17	What is Language & Linguistics?	SOL 1-3 (LF 2.1-2.4) RR 1-2	1-28; (21-38)	
T 8/22	The Structure of English Phonetics; introduce Literacy Autobiography Paper	SOL 4 (LF 3.1-3.4)	29-42 (41-60)	Assign. 1
R 8/24	Phonology	SOL 5 (LF 4.1-4.4)	43-51 (100-123)	Assign. 2
T 8/29	Review & Quiz #1			Assign. 3
R 8/31	Word Formation	SOL 6	52-61	

DATES	TOPIC	READING	PAGES	DUE
T 9/5	Morphology	SOL 7 (LF 5.1-5.3)	62-71 (145-155)	Assign. 4
R 9/7	Prescriptive & Descriptive Grammar	SOL 8 (LF 1.3) RR 3-4	73-85 (8-13)	
T 9/12	Syntax: Sentence structure	SOL 9 LF 6.1-6.5	86-99 185-208	Assign. 5
R 9/14	The Interpretation of English Semantics	SOL 10 (LF 15.3-4) RR5-6	100-111 (505-510)	Assign. 6 (Assign 15, optionally)
T 9/19	Review & Quiz 2			
R 9/21	Pragmatics & Discourse Analysis Literacy Autobiography due	SOL 11-12 (LF 8.1-8.6)	112-136 (239-267)	Assign. 7
T 9/26	English Variation & Change Language history & change	SOL 17 (LF 12.1-2 & 12.9)	182-193 (401-409; 440-449)	Assign. 8
R 9/28	Language Variation: Regional dialects & language contact	SOL 18 (LF 10.1-2, 4; 11.1-5)	194-204 (various)	Assign. 9
T 10/3	Video: <i>American Tongues</i>			Assign. 10
R 10/5	Language Variation: Social Dialects	SOL 19 (LF10.3, 5-9)	205-215 (335-372)	Assign. 11
T 10/10	Fall Break			
R 10/12	Introduce Group Project			
T 10/17	Psycholinguistics Language, thought, and society	SOL 20	216-227 (505-510; 356-364)	
R 10/19	Language and the brain	SOL 13 (LF 9.1-2, 8- 9) RR 7	137-148 (271-279; 314-325)	Assign. 12
T 10/24	Meet in Jackson Library's Citi			
R 10/26	Applied Linguistics First Language Acquisition	SOL 14 (LF 9.3-7) RR 8-9	149-161 (283-313)	Assign. 13
T 10/31	Second language acquisition & Annotated Bibliography workshop	SOL 15 RR 10	162-171	
R 11/2	Sign Language; Discuss Term Paper	SOL 16 (LF 13.1-3)	172-181 (449-464)	Assign. 14
T 11/7	Group Work			
R 11/9	Group Presentations			
T 11/14	Group Presentations			
R 11/16	Group Presentations			
T 11/21	Term Paper Writing Conferences			Assign. 15
R 11/23	Thanksgiving Break			
T 11/28	Review; Course Evaluations			
R 11/30	Final Examination; Term Papers due			

Reserve Readings

AUTHOR	TITLE	RR # in Syllabus
Aitchison, Jean	Bad birds and better birds: Prototype theories	Reserve 5
Bullock et al.	Annotated bibliography: Identifying, teaching, and mainstreaming children with learning disabilities	FYI
Clark, Mary M.	The Structure of English	See S.A. 9
Freeman, D.E. & Freeman, Y.E.	Written & Second Language Acquisition	Reserve 10
Fromkin, et al.	The development of language in Genie: A case of language acquisition beyond the "Critical Period;" & Genie: A postscript	Reserve 7 & 8
Patterson, F.	Conversations with a gorilla	Reserve 1
Seymour, D. Z.	Black children, Black Language	Reserve 3
Terrance, H. S.	What I learned from Nim Chimpsky	Reserve 2
Tserdanelis, G., & Wong, W. Y. P.	Language files: Materials for an introduction to language and linguistics (9 th ed.)	On-going
Wade, N.	Language gene is traced to emergence of humans	Reserve 9
Webb, K.	Black English: A discussion	Reserve 4
Wurr, A.	Cosmic consciousness in the Grateful Dead's "Eyes of the World"	Reserve 6
Yule, G.	The study of language, 2 nd edition	On-going