

**LING 101.01**  
**INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS**  
**Spring 2021**

**Class: MMWW 5656**

**Zoom Classes Only**

	<b>Instructor</b>	<b>PS (Problem Session) leader (Fancy TA ☺)</b>
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<b>Office hours:</b>	By appointment	By appointment

**SYLLABUS**

**Course description:**

The ability to speak and understand a language (this ability is often simply called Language) is unique to humans and, within the species, universally represented. It affords us, together with other faculties of the mind, the ability to achieve levels of abstract thinking as well as social organization that is unprecedented in the animal kingdom. Language is therefore one of the most characteristic features of the human species and its study is centrally important to understanding what it is to be human.

This course aims at introducing the basic principles and concepts in Linguistics as the study of human language, its scientific and systematic foundations. In this course, we will be exploring what it means to know a language, in terms of its structure, sound, and meaning. We will study the articulation and interaction of speech sounds, the formation of words, the structure of phrases and sentences, and the computation of sentence meaning.

**Course materials:**

**TEXTBOOK:** Fromkin, A.V., R. Rodman & N. Hyams. (2014). An Introduction to Language. Harcourt Brace College Publishers. (10th edition): I expect you to come to class having read the assigned pages.

**CLASS NOTES** Slides shown in class and posted on the course Moodle.

**ALL OTHER CLASS MATERIAL WILL BE SHARED ON MOODLE.**

Make sure e-mails to your boun address reach you regularly since notifications on Moodle can only be sent to boun addresses.

**Course Requirements:**

1. **READINGS:** Read all assigned chapters (or parts thereof) carefully **before** class in order to understand the lectures and participate in class discussion.
2. **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:** Attendance to lectures and PSs is compulsory and participation in class discussion will determine a portion of your grade (20%). You count as

3. **ASSIGNMENTS.** Linguistics is best learned by doing problem sets. Throughout the semester, there will be **4 problem sets** based on the material in the textbooks and the lectures. Each of the assignments must be handed in on Moodle by the beginning of class time on the dates specified on the schedule below. **In case of late submission:** You will lose 10% of your assignment score if you submit it late, but on the due date. You will lose 20% of the score for each day of delay, if you submit it on a later date. In total, assignments will count towards 20% of the course grade.
  4. **MIDTERM EXAMS:** There will be one midterm exam in the course of the semester counting 30% of the course grade.
5. **FINAL EXAM:** A non-cumulative final exam will determine the remaining 30% of your grade. **Students who miss the midterm will not be allowed to take the final exam. Moreover students whose grade in the midterms is less than 35% will not be admitted to the final exam either.**
6. **PS (PROBLEM SESSION) HOURS:** You will meet with the session leader (TA) of the course regularly to do further practice and to discuss the questions you may have regarding the lectures and/or assignments. **Attendance is required.** PSs are on the Wednesdays indicated in the schedule below at 2 p.m.

### Evaluation:

<b>Attendance &amp; Participation:</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Assignments:</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Midterm:</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Final (non- cumulative)</b>	<b>30%</b>

**The passing score for the course is 60 %.** If you encounter any difficulty with the course material, contact the instructor and/or your TA for help and clarifications in a timely fashion. In the interest of fairness towards your fellow classmates, **NO extra credit work will be assigned and no exceptional excuses will be made to improve your grade after assignment due dates, the midterm or the final exam.**

A note on cheating: again, in the interest of fairness towards the other students in the course, any student found or suspected of cheating during exams will be immediately reported to the disciplinary committee of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

A note on exam scheduling conflicts: it is each individual student's responsibility to keep track of possible scheduling conflicts with the scheduling of exams of different courses they may take. The date for Ling 101 midterms and finals cannot be changed.

# Spring 2021 Weekly Schedule (Preliminary/subject to change!)

## Week 1

March 22 Course introduction  
 March 24 Introductory remarks **Readings:** Chapter 1

## Week 2

March 29 Phonetics **Readings:** Chapter 5 (pp. 188-197)  
 March 31 Phonetics **Readings:** Chapter 5 (pp. 194-208)

## Week 3

April 5 Phonetics **Readings:** Chapter 5 (pp. 208-209)  
 April 7 Phonology **Readings:** Chapter 6 (pp. 230-235, 238-239) (PS phonetics)

## Week 4

April 12 Phonology **Readings:** Chapter 6 (pp. 241-251)  
 April 14 Phonology **Readings:** Chapter 6 (pp. 260-265) (PS phonology)

## Week 5

April 19 Morphology **Readings:** Chapter 2 (pp. 34-46) **Assignment 1 due**  
 April 21 Morphology **Readings:** Chapter 2 (pp. 49-52, 57-60)

## Week 6

April 26 Morpho-phonology **Readings:** Chapter 6 (pp. 224-229)  
 April 28 Morphology **Readings:** Chapter 2 (pp. 61-66) (PS morphology)

## Week 7

May 3 Morphology review  
 May 5 Morphology review

## Week 8 **Spring Break: NO classes**

## Week 9

May 17 Midterm review **Assignment 2 due**  
 May 18 (PS review)

**MAY 21 MIDTERM from 5: 00 PM till 7:00 pm (on Phonetics, Phonology and Morphology)**

## Week 10

May 24 Syntax **Readings:** Chapter 3 (pp. 76-87)  
 May 26 Syntax **Readings:** Chapter 3 (pp. 82-100)

## Week 11

May 31 Syntax **Readings:** Chapter 3 (pp. 100-109, 114-117)  
 June 2 Semantics **Readings:** Ch4 (pp. 139-146) (PS Syntax)

**Week 12**

June 7 Semantics/Pragmatics **Readings:** Ch 170-174  
June 9 Pragmatics

**Assignment 3 due**  
(PS semantics)

**Week 13**

June 14 TBA **Readings:** TBA  
June 16 Exam Review

**Assignment 4 due**  
(PS exam review)

**JUNE 28 from 10 till 13**

**FINAL EXAM (Non cumulative)**