Humanities & Social Sciences
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DELHI

HUL242: Fundamentals of Language Sciences
Sem-II, 2024-2025

Lecture time and Location: Monday & Thursday, 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm, LH318

Tutorial time and Location: Wednesday, 1-2 pm, & 2-3 pm, LH604

Course website: http://moodle.iitd.ac.in (Moodle)
(Please check your Moodle regularly. All course-related notifications will be sent there)

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Or by appointment via email

TAs: Siddharth Misra (PhD student)
Joynal Ali (PhD student)
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About this course

This course is an introduction to the study of linguistics, a subject that deals with the scientific study of human language. Linguistics studies and develops linguistic theories that help us understand the rich cognitive processes that allow us to produce and perceive a human language.

In this course, we'll focus on several modern linguistic theories looking at the core areas of human language and linguistics: *Phonetics* (the study of speech sounds), *Phonology* (the study of linguistic sound patterns), *Morphology* (the study of words and word formation), *Syntax* (the study of how sentences and phrases are built and structured), and *Semantics* (the study of how words and phrases are associated with meaning).

Learning goals

After completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Understand significant subfields within linguistics.
- Understand, create, and manipulate representations and analyses in different subfields of linguistics.

Evaluation and required work

- Your final grade for this course is based on a mix of two surprise quizzes, minor and major exams, and participation. The percentage-wise breakdown is given below:

Grading breakdown

Minor exam: 30%

Major exam: 40%

Three Surprise Quizzes: 24%

Participation: 6%

Grading System:

Relative Grading Marking System

More on participation, attendance, quizzes, minor and major exams

Participation

- 6 marks for students participating in the discussion during the review of quizzes, class assignments and practices in class and/or tutorial.

Quizzes

- There will be 4 surprise quizzes. The final grade will be determined by taking the best 3 out of 4.

Minor exam

- The minor exam: 30 marks.

- Mid-term exam week is Feb 21-27. The minor will be held between these two dates. The exact details will be provided when the information is available.

- The minor exam cannot be made up unless valid documentation is provided ahead of time to excuse the absence.

Major exam

- The major exam: 40 marks.

- The end-semester exam week is May 01-06. The major will be held between these two dates. The exact details will be provided when the information is available.

- The final exam cannot be made up unless valid documentation is provided ahead of time to excuse the absence.

Attendance

- 75% attendance is required to attend the major exam.

Policy on missed exams and quizzes

- Missed exams and quizzes will result in a score of zero unless accompanied by proof of illness.

On NP and NF grades

- If this course is an elective course for you, auditing is allowed. The audit pass grade 'NP' may be awarded if your attendance is above 75% in the class and you obtain at least a 'D' grade; if you do not fulfil the stated requirements, the audit fail grade 'NF' will be awarded.

- Please check your Moodle regularly. All course-related notifications will be sent there.

Tentative schedule

A schedule is given in Table 1 below. This schedule might change depending on the class's progress, but hopefully, it helps you get your bearings; keep checking the Moodle schedule for updates.

Date			Class	Topic
Jan	2	Thu	1	Introduction Language and Linguistics Linguistics as a science
	Module 1: Phonetics (speech sounds)			
	6	Mon	2	Phonetics (The Anatomy and Physiology of Speech sounds)
	9	Thu	3	Phonetics

				(Articulatory Phonetics)
	13	Mon	4	Phonetics (Articulatory Phonetics) Practical Applications of Phonetics
Module 2: Phonology (Sound pattern)				
	16	Thu	**NO CLASS** **As per Tue timetable**	
	20	Mon	5	Phonology (Linguistic units and mental representation: Phone, Phoneme, Allophones)
	23	Thu	6	Phonology (Phone, Phoneme, Allophones)
	27	Mon	7	Phonology (Phonological rules)
	30	Thu	8	Phonology (Phonological rules, Practical Applications of Phonology)
Module 3: Morphology (word structure)				
Feb	3	Mon	9	Morphology (Linguistic units and mental representation: Morph, Morpheme, Allomorph)
	6	Thu	10	Morphology (Morph, Morpheme, Allomorph)
	10	Mon	11	Morphology (Internal structure of words)
	13	Thu	12	Morphology (Morphemes and word formation)
	17	Mon	13	Morphology (Morphemes and word formation, Practical Applications of Morphology)
	20	Thu	14	Review, interaction, and feedback

	21-27		MID-TERM EXAMINATIONS	
	Module 4: Syntax (sentence structure)			
March	3	Mon	15	Syntax (Syntactic categories)
	6	Thu	16	Syntax (constituents and phrases)
	10-16		SEMESTER BREAK	
	17	Mon	17	Syntax constituents and phrases
	20	Thu	18	Syntax (Phrase structure rules)
	24	Mon	19	Syntax (Phrase structure rules)
	27	Thu	20	Syntax (Phrase structure rules)
April	3	Thu	21	Syntax (Different kinds of sentence structure)
	7	Mon	22	Syntax (Different kinds of sentence structure)
	10	Thu	NO CLASS	
	Module 5: Semantics (meaning)			
	12	SAT	23 as per Thursday timetable	Semantics (Meaning: lexical and compositional)
	14	Mon	24	Semantics (Truth conditional meaning of different kinds of sentences)
	17	Thu	25	Semantics (Truth conditional meaning of different kinds of sentences)
	21	Mon	26	Semantics

				(Meaning: Entailment, presupposition)
	24	Thu	27	Review, interaction, and feedback
	28	Mon	28	PMT
May	1-6	END-SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS		

Readings

All required readings will be posted as pdf files on Moodle, under the *Readings* folder. You do not need to buy a textbook for this course.

- Mihalicek, Vedrana and Christin Wilson. (2007). **Morphology**, in *Language Files: Materials for an introduction to language and linguistics*. Ohio State University Press.
- Carnie, Andrew. (2013). **Parts of speech**, in *Syntax: A generative introduction. 3rd edition*. Malden, MA/Oxford, London: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Carnie, Andrew. (2013). **Constituency, trees, and rules**, in *Syntax: A generative introduction. 3rd edition*. Malden, MA/Oxford, London: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Fromkin, Victoria, et al. (2001). **Semantics I: Compositionality**, in *Linguistics: An introduction to linguistic theory. 2nd edition*. Blackwell.
- Fromkin, Victoria, et al. (2001). **Semantics II: Scope**, in *Linguistics: An introduction to linguistic theory. 2nd edition*. Blackwell.
- O'Grady, Williams, et al. (2010). **Phonetics**, in *Contemporary Linguistics. 6th edition*. Boston, New York: Bedford/St. Martin's.
- O'Grady, Williams, et al. (2010). **Phonology**, in *Contemporary Linguistics. 6th edition*. Boston, New York: Bedford/St. Martin's.

Academic integrity

- It's unethical and unacceptable to pass off anyone else's work as your own. If you use an outside source, it must be cited.

- Students are expected to work independently on answering questions in exams. Offering or accepting solutions from others is plagiarism, a serious offence, and all involved parties will be penalized according to the Academic Honesty Policy.

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