

LIN200: *Introduction to Language*

Introduction to Language

LIN200H1S, Fall 2016

R7-9, ES1050

Tutorial: R3-4; 4-5; 5-6, 6-7

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Sidney Smith Building, Room 4082
R 4-6, or by appointment

Course Description:

LIN200 is a broad-scope course about language, which provides an introduction into the formal study of human language. During the first half of the course, the four core fields of Linguistics will be examined, including phonetics/phonology (the study of speech sounds and sound structure), morphology/syntax (the study of word and sentence structure), and semantics/pragmatics (the study of meaning). The second half of the course will examine some of the subfields of linguistics including language acquisition, historical linguistics, sociolinguistics, and neurolinguistics.

Exclusion: LIN101H1, LIN102H1, 100Y1Y, ANT253H1

Distribution Requirement Status: Humanities

Breadth Requirement: Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

Required Textbook

Linguistics for Dummies. Rose-Marie Déchaine, Strang Burton, & Eric Vatikiotis-Bateson. (2016, John Wiley & Sons). Available in the University of Toronto Book Store, from the publisher, and from Amazon (or other online book stores).

Course Website

This course uses Blackboard. Announcements, homework assignments, and grades will be posted on Blackboard. Blackboard can be accessed by logging in at portal.utoronto.ca with your UTORid and password. Please make sure your utoronto e-mail address is up to date on ROSI so that all course announcements will be sent to you. You are responsible for any information sent in the course announcements.

Tutorials

Attending tutorials are a critical component of the course work and attendance is required. During tutorials, homework will be collected and discussed, and supplemental material will be covered with the aim at deepening students' understanding of the course material. Students risk performing poorer on their course work and weakening their understanding of fundamental topics if tutorials are not attended. Participation marks partially depend on participation during tutorials.

There are eight tutorial sections: UC152 3-4 (TUT0101), UC152 4-5 (TUT0201), UC256 4-5 (TUT0202), UC152 5-6 (TUT5101), UC256 5-6 (TUT5102), LM155 5-6 (TUT5103), UC152 6-7 (TUT5201), UC256 6-7 (TUT5202). You must enroll in *one* tutorial section; please make sure you attend the tutorial you enroll in.

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Course Schedule

Date	Lecture Topic	Reading	Tutorials
Sept. 15	Introduction to Linguistics	Ch. 1 & 2	No tutorials
Sept. 22	Phonetics	Ch. 3	
Sept. 29	Phonology	Ch. 4	HW 1 Due
Oct. 6	Morphology	Ch. 5	HW 2 Due
Oct. 13	Syntax	Ch. 6	HW 3 Due
Oct. 20	Semantics & Pragmatics	Ch. 7 & 8	HW 4 Due
Oct. 27	Mid-term		= Help Labs =
Nov. 3	Language Acquisition	Ch. 13	Proposal Due
Nov. 10	Historical Linguistics	Ch. 10	Review of mid-term
Nov. 17	Sociolinguistics	Ch. 9	
Nov. 24	Language Perception	Ch. 14	
Dec. 1	Neurolinguistics		Paper Due

=== Final Exam Period: December 9-20 ===

Evaluation

Mid-Term: 32%. October 27, during class time (2 hours).

Assignments: 8% (2% each). Assignments are due at the beginning of tutorial on specified date.

1. Phonetics September 29
2. Phonology October 6
3. Morphology October 13
4. Syntax October 20

Mini Research Paper Assignment, 20% in total.

- a. Proposal, Outline and Annotated Bibliography (due Nov 3, 5%)
- b. Final Mini Research Paper (due Dec. 1, 15%).

Final Exam: 35%. Dates TBA, between Dec. 9-20 (Two hours).

Participation: 5%. Tutorials and lecture attendance and participation.

Important Dates

November 7	Last day to drop F section courses from academic record and GPA. After this date a mark is recorded for each course.
November 7-8	Fall break. No classes.
December 6	Classes end in F section code.
December 9-20	Final examinations in F section code courses.
December 20	Last day to file a petition regarding term work in 2016 Fall F section courses.

WIT Statement

WIT (Writing Instruction for/by TAs): LIN200 has been chosen for an Arts and Science initiative to provide support for student writing. You won't be graded differently than you would otherwise, but your TAs will participate in special training to help mark your writing assignments. Later in the year you may be given the chance to take a survey or be part of a focus group to comment on your writing experience in the course. Students tell us that this initiative is an effective component of the course, and our statistics confirm that their writing improves measurably.

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Participation

Participation mark reflects how involved in the course you are. Participation marks can be acquired through: asking and answering questions in tutorials, attending tutorials and lectures, completing the ‘ticket out the door,’ coming to office hours to ask for help, and asking TAs for help with class material. The primary purpose of the participation mark is to encourage *active* participation in class and with the course material.

Course Materials

Reading the assigned chapters prior to lecture will help you grasp concepts more easily and help you to ask questions which increase your understanding of the material.

Assignments

Each assignment is to be completed and handed in **at the beginning of tutorial** on the assigned date. If you are late for any reason, hand in the assignment immediately. Late assignments are subject to penalty. If you cannot make it to tutorial to hand in the assignment, you must hand it in during my office hours, at the linguistics assignment drop box, or arrange to hand it in some other way *before the deadline*. All assignments need to be legibly written on the assignment paper. Late assignments will not be accepted except for in extreme circumstances (please see the policy on medical certificates below).

The mini-research paper will consist of two important parts: the proposal (due Nov. 3) and the final paper (due Dec. 1). The proposal is designed to make sure the student has a good grasp of what is expected and what direction to take the paper. Comments will be given on the proposal with the aim of helping the student understand how to make their topic into a strong paper. The final research paper will be longer (4 pages maximum) and will build on the ideas set out in the proposal.

Grading Policy

The Department of Linguistics follows the *University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy*. The link is below this section. Requests for regrading may be submitted not earlier than the next tutorial, but not later than one full week after the assignment was returned. You must also complete a “Regrading Request” form, which is available on Blackboard. Work done in pencil cannot be submitted for re-grading.

<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/grading.pdf>

Academic Honesty

The university has a Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>, please familiarize yourself with it. It is your responsibility to understand the code. Cheating, plagiarism, or representing other people’s work as your own is not permitted and will be dealt with in accordance to university standards. For this course, plagiarism can be considered any of the following acts as defined by the Arts & Science website (www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai/The-rules): using an idea without reference source; copying material without quotation marks; copying material with a few words

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changed, or used in different order without acknowledgement; submitting a purchased paper or an assignment written by someone else; on a test/exam, reproducing material memorized from a source (e.g. book, website, lecture slides) without quotation marks and/or acknowledgement. Please also be aware you are not allowed to resubmit papers used in other courses for any of the written assignments in this course. Suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be forwarded to the Department of Linguistics and Office of Student Academic Integrity. Please see <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources> for information on avoiding plagiarism.

Medical Certificates

Students who miss assignments or the midterm are required to submit a medical certificate or they will receive a zero. A verification of student illness or injury form must be completed by UofT Health Services or your family physician and submitted to me. The form can be found at www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca.

Please be aware that “mild colds, non-acute diarrhoea and/or vomiting, headaches, menstrual cramps, insomnia and other non-acute problems may benefit from medical advice and/or treatment, but may not warrant a certificate. Non-medical issues, such as a death in the family, should be addressed through your college (if A&S) or faculty registrar” (UofT Health Services website).

The form must verify that you were diagnosed and sick during the period of the time the assignment was due, not afterwards. If the condition is not considered to be serious enough to warrant missing an assignment by me, you will receive a zero. I will also **always contact the physician** to confirm the periods of illness and that your illness was severe enough to warrant missing work. Any suspicious certificates will be forwarded to the Office of Student Academic Integrity.

E-mail Policy

All e-mail correspondence with me must be sent from your University of Toronto e-mail address to **phil.howson@mail.utoronto.ca**. The subject line must read “LIN200” at the beginning. Please include your name and student number. E-mails should be concise and related to course material (e.g. to schedule an appointment; to let me know if you cannot access course material, etc.). Questions about course material are best asked during lecture, tutorial, or in my office hours. I will respond to e-mail within 48 hours.

Academic Support

If you are struggling with the course material, do not hesitate to contact UofT’s Academic Success Center at <http://asc.utoronto.ca> for resources to extra help. There is still some help available during the summer term at the college writing centres. You can book appointments online at <http://writing.utoronto.ca/news>.