

**ENGL 389R 2A: Introduction to Linguistics**  
**Department of English**  
**Oxford College, Emory University**  
**Spring 2012**

Instructor:	Mr. Jack A. Hardy	Office Hours:	MW 3:30 – 4:45; MWF drop-
Phone:	(770) 784-4674		by times during lunch at Lil's; and by
Email:	jack.hardy@emory.edu		appointment
Office:	Humanities 203	Class Mtgs:	MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm Language Hall 201

### **Course Description**

What is language, and how do world languages differ? How do linguists investigate the basic building blocks of human languages? This course introduces students to linguistics, the scientific study of human language systems. After an overview of the nature of language, we will look at the diverse ways in which individual languages form words and sentences (morphology and syntax). Next, we will study speech sounds (phonetics) and sound systems (phonology) of languages. Then, we will consider how linguists analyze meaning in language (semantics). Additional topics include historical linguistics, sociolinguistics, language variation, and corpus linguistics. *4 credits. Cross-listed as LING-201, ANT-203. No prerequisites.*

### **Learning Outcomes**

Students demonstrate understanding of core areas of linguistics: phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics

Students demonstrate the ability to analyze language structures (e.g., sound structure, word structure, sentence structure)

### **Readings**

#### Required Texts

- Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., & Hyams, N. (2011). *An introduction to language* (9th ed.). Boston, MA: Wadsworth.
- Additional required readings will be made available online

Recommended texts (especially if you're considering a major or minor in linguistics)

Steven Pinker's *The Language Instinct* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.) (2007)

Geoffrey Sampson's *The 'Language Instinct' Debate* (Revised Edition) (2005).

Both books are widely available.

## Course Requirements and Grading

Check Blackboard and your student email frequently. My preferred channel of communication is email.

### Attendance and Participation

I will not take attendance for this class. Late assignments are not accepted, and quizzes/exams cannot be made up. Also, in class, I expect students to listen attentively during lectures and engage with their peers during discussions.

### Assignments

Homework assignments will typically consist of short problem sets and will be due most class periods.

Hand in a hardcopy of your homework unless you are otherwise instructed. Staple your homework before class and write your name on every page. Handwritten work is fine as long as it is legible. You are encouraged to discuss homework questions with other students, but you should write up your answers independently (i.e., no word-for-word identical responses). **If you discuss an assignment with other students, write their names at the top of your paper.**

If you miss class, be sure to 1) get your homework to me before class (easiest via email) and 2) get new HW on Blackboard and complete it **before** the next class meeting so that you can turn your homework in on time. The best way to contact me is by email.

I will drop your lowest homework grade.

### Quizzes

A short quiz (15-20 minutes) will follow each topic (see schedule below). These quizzes will be similar to homework assignments and will highlight your strengths and weaknesses in the content, helping to prepare you for exams.

### Exams

There will be two exams. They will consist of problems similar in content and format to those from homework assignments and quizzes.

<b>Assignments</b>	<b>25 %</b>
<b>Quizzes</b>	<b>30 % (5 % each)</b>
<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>15 %</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 %</b>

## **Classroom Expectations**

### Students with Disabilities

“Access, Disability Services and Resources at Oxford College provides accommodations and coordinates services for eligible students with temporary and chronic (i.e. long-term) medical conditions and/or disabilities. Students must register and request services from the Disability Services Office located on Emory University’s main campus and at Oxford College.

Confidentiality is strictly honored as we follow the federal guidelines set forth by FERPA and other related governing regulations. Students’ medical documentation and/or information related to their accommodations are not stored with their academic records.” (Faculty Guide to Access, Disability Services, and Resources, 2011)

### Statement of Academic Integrity

Academic integrity includes a commitment to not engage in nor tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Violation of academic integrity in this course includes plagiarizing and tampering with the work of another student. All students are expected to act with civility, personal integrity; respect other students’ dignity, rights and property; and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their own efforts. An environment of academic integrity is requisite to respect for self and others and a civil community.

All work done in this class is subject to the Oxford College Honor Code. Work produced through academic misconduct (e.g., cheating, plagiarism) will be dealt with according to the policies of the Honor Code and can result in a failing grade for the entire course. Unless I tell you otherwise, work in the course should be done on your own. The college imposes serious penalties for breaches of academic honesty and all cases of suspected breaches of honesty will be reported. Please see [http://college.emory.edu/home/academic/policy/honor\\_code.html](http://college.emory.edu/home/academic/policy/honor_code.html) for more details on the Honor Code.

### Behavior

Because this is a college-level course, it is expected that both the instructor and students will behave professionally and courteously. Serious disruptions will result in referral to the Conduct Council and can influence your grade.

[http://oxford.emory.edu/life/housing\\_and\\_dining/housing/res-documents/codeofconduct.pdf](http://oxford.emory.edu/life/housing_and_dining/housing/res-documents/codeofconduct.pdf)

### Electronic Devices

Laptops, iPads, smart phones, etc. might be used in this class when the time is appropriate. I will let you know when those times are. Otherwise, assume that they are not to be used in class.

Student work submitted as part of this course may be reviewed by Oxford College and Emory College faculty and staff for the purposes of improving instruction and enhancing Emory education.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

(Subject to Change)

Week	Date	Topic	Reading
Week 1	1/18	Introduction Language myths	pre-reading Chp. 1
Week 2	1/23	What is Language?	Chp. 1
	1/25	Brain and Language	Chp. 2
Week 3	1/30	<b>Quiz #1 – Part 1, The Nature of Human Language</b> Introduction to Morphology	Chp. 3 pp: 78-87
	2/1	Morphology	pp: 87-107
Week 4	2/6	Morphology	
	2/8	<b>Quiz #2 – Morphology</b> Introduction to Syntax	pp: 118-129
Week 5	2/13	Syntax – Phrase structure trees and rules	pp: 129-142
	2/15	Syntax – Heads and complements	pp: 142-154
Week 6	2/20	Syntax	pp: 155-169
	2/22	Syntax	
Week 7	2/27	<b>Quiz # 3 – Syntax</b> Midterm Review	
	2/29	<b>MIDTERM</b>	
Week 8	3/5	Review midterm Introduction to phonetics	pp: 230-245
	3/7	Phonetics	pp: 246-250

Week 9	3/12	<b>SPRING RECESS</b>	
	3/14		
Week 10	3/19	<b>Quiz #4a (consonants in English words)</b> Phonetics	
	3/21	<b>Quiz #4b (vowels)</b> Phonetics	pp: 250-260
Week 11	3/26	<b>Quiz #4c – Phonetics (all)</b> Phonology – Allomorphs	pp: 266-272
	3/28	Phonology	
Week 12	4/2	Phonology	
	4/4	<b>Quiz #4 – Phonology</b> Semantics – Lexical semantics	pp: 192-203
Week 13	4/9	Semantics - Pragmatics	pp: 207-216
	4/11	<b>Quiz #5 – Semantics</b> Language Acquisition	Chp. 8
Week 14	4/16	Language Acquisition	Chp. 8
	4/18	<b>Quiz #6 – Language Acquisition</b> Language in Society – Corpus Linguistics	Chp. 10
Week 15	4/23	Language Change	Chp. 11
	4/25	[to be determined]	
Week 16	4/30	Last day of class - Review Day	
	5/4	<b>FINAL EXAM @ 2:00 PM</b>	