

Linguistics 100: Introduction to Linguistic Science Summer 2018, Session A

Course Information

Time: Monday to Friday, 12–2PM
Location: Barrows 126
Instructor: Tyler Lau
Email: tylerlau@berkeley.edu
Mailbox: 1203 Dwinelle Hall
Office: 1309 Dwinelle Hall¹
Office Hours: Monday 3–4PM, Wednesday 11–12PM, and by appointment

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. This class will broadly survey various subfields of linguistics that seek to understand how human language works. We will begin with the sounds of the world's languages (phonetics) and how they pattern together (phonology) and then build up to how sounds come together to form words (morphology) and how words come together to form sentences (syntax) and meaning (semantics/pragmatics). We will then explore language in social context (sociolinguistics) and how languages are related and how they change over time (historical linguistics). Finally, we will wrap up with a survey of various topics related to language diversity. You will learn:

- ★ How linguistic science differs from the traditional grammar that is taught in schools
- ★ Modern linguistic theory and empirical and experimental data on language
- ★ That language is incredibly both structured and regular and also diverse and complex
- ★ Analytical skills to decipher problem sets that can be extended not only to other languages but also to other fields that involve problem solving
- ★ How to develop and test hypotheses and to draw generalizations from data
- ★ About language myths and misconceptions and how to qualify and/or dispel them
- ★ Where language intersects with various social issues
- ★ Most importantly, why language is so fascinating and why everyone should study it!

Grading

Attendance & Participation	5%
Discussion Questions & Answers (1% a week)	5%
In-class quizzes (5 in total, each worth 3%)	15%
Problem Sets (5 in total, each worth 10%)	50%
Final Exam (in class on <u>Friday, June 29</u>)	25%

¹Both my mailbox and office are in the A level of Dwinelle. The easiest way to get there is to enter the west side of the building, across from the Valley Life Sciences Building and next to the parking lot.

Policies

Attendance

- ★ Attending every class is mandatory; attendance will be taken
- ★ If you must be absent, email me at least 2 hours beforehand with an explanation
- ★ If you have 2 unexcused absences you will fail the class

Accommodations

If you require any accommodations, please get in touch with the DSP (Disabled Students' Program), located at 260 César Chávez Student Center. Students may call (510) 642-0518 (voice), (510) 642-6376 (TTY), or email <http://dsp.berkeley.edu/>. Please send me accommodation letters from the DSP as soon as possible.

Class

- ★ Please come to class on time; lateness will factor into your participation grade
- ★ Participate either by asking or answering questions. Please ask questions! If you have one someone else probably has the same question as well

Discussion Questions & Answers

- ★ On bcourses "Discussions", please post at least two questions a week and answer at least one question a week for Weeks 1–5. You must do this to receive full credit.
- ★ At least one question should be one that can be answered from the readings. The second one may be a more difficult or bigger picture question
- ★ The first question must be posted by Friday of that week at 11:59PM to leave ample time over the weekend for other students to answer
- ★ The second question and answer must be posted by the following Monday at 12PM
- ★ Make sure it is related to the topics of the week
- ★ I encourage you to ask questions you are confused about so you can learn
- ★ Please use the "like" system to mark questions that you have yourself. I will draw from the most liked questions to answer in class, so this system is for your benefit!
- ★ The best way to learn is from teaching, so answering questions will help you learn!

Homework

- ★ Homework is due on Gradescope by the start of class on Monday (12PM)
- ★ Please list all collaborators (if none, then write "Collaborators: None")
- ★ You must answer questions in the space provided to you in the homework PDF. Typed answers in the PDF using Adobe Acrobat Reader (provided by the university at <https://software.berkeley.edu/adobe>) are preferred, but if you have a strong preference, you may print out the PDF and write up answers by hand neatly and scan
- ★ Late homework will not be accepted

Quizzes and Final Exam

- ★ Every class will begin with a quiz (Thursdays graded 20 min; else ungraded 5 min)
- ★ Please bring a laptop, smartphone, or other device to class for quizzes
- ★ Late quizzes will not be accepted

- ★ The final exam will be in class on Friday, June 29th, and will be cumulative, covering material from homework, readings, lecture, and quizzes

Regrades

If you believe that the grader has made a mistake, you *must* request a regrade through Gradescope within a week of when the quiz or homework is returned.

Technology

Once the daily quiz is done, please put away all electronic devices (phone, laptop, tablet etc.) for the remainder of the class. Technology is only permitted in the case of accommodations.

Email

Email is the best way to contact me. My email address is tylerlau@berkeley.edu. I will try to respond to emails within 24 hours, excluding weekends. If I don't respond within this timeframe, please follow up as your email may have gotten lost in my inbox.

Please don't hesitate to email me (I am very responsive!), but I strongly encourage you to come to office hours to ask questions about homework or class content as these are longer questions and are better explained with a board.

Diversity and Respect

Language is an incredible expression of diversity. I want to foster a respectful and nurturing environment for students from all backgrounds and perspectives in this class. Hateful views will not be tolerated. Please join me in creating a welcoming environment.

Academic dishonesty

This course follows a zero-tolerance policy on all forms of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism. Concretely, you must acknowledge all collaborators on your homework assignments, and you must write up the assignments separately. Suspected incidents of plagiarism and cheating will be reported. Please familiarize yourself with UC Berkeley's policies regarding proper student conduct and cheating: <http://sa.berkeley.edu/conduct/academic-misconduct/faq>.

Undergraduate linguistics advisor

Martine Alexander is the Undergraduate Major Advisor. Please email her at lingmajoradvisor@berkeley.edu for an advising appointment, if you have any questions about the Linguistics department, major, or anything class-related.

Course Textbook

Title: Language files: Materials for an introduction to language and linguistics, 12th edition

Authors: Dawson, Hope (Editor) & Phelan, Michael (Editor)

ISBN: 0814252702; 9780814252703

Available at Cal Student Store (New/Rental/Rental New/Used), or online
Copies have been made available at Moffitt Library through Course Reserves

Schedule

- ★ This schedule is subject to minor changes
- ★ Most readings are from Language Files (LF), but some are from Contemporary Linguistics (CL). The CL and remaining readings are available in PDF format on bcourses
- ★ WALS refers to the World Atlas of Language Structures. The numbers refer to chapters to be read, which may be found at <http://wals.info/chapter>

Date	Topic	Reading	Assigned
Week 1: Introduction, Phonetics, & Phonology			
M 5/21	What is linguistics? Why do we care?	LF 1.0–1.5	
Tu 5/22	IPA, Sounds of English	CL 2.0–2.7	
W 5/23	Vowel plots, Acoustic phonetics	LF 2.6	
Th 5/24	Stress, Tone, World sounds	LF 2.4–2.5, WALS 1,2,7,10,13,19	Quiz 1
F 5/25	Minimal pairs, allophones	CL 3.0–3.2.2, 3.3, LF 3.2	
Week 2: Phonology cont.			
M 5/28	Memorial Day (No Class)	–	
Tu 5/29	Natural Classes, Features, Syllables	CL 3.2.3, 3.4–3.5 WALS 12	HW 1
W 5/30	Phonological rules	LF 3.3, 3.5, CL p. 105–6	
Th 5/31	Naturalness, phonological rules 2	LF 3.4, WALS 4,5,19	Quiz 2
F 6/01	Phonological language acquisition	Werker & Tees (1984)	
Week 3: Morphology & Syntax			
M 6/04	Words, morphemes, affixes	LF 4.0–4.2	
Tu 6/05	Morphological typology & analysis	LF 4.3, 4.5, WALS 26,30,32,49,69	HW 2
W 6/06	Morphological analysis 2, acquisition	Berko (1958)	
Th 6/07	Syntactic categories, constituency	LF 5.0, 5.1, 5.3, CL 5.1.1 Carney (2013) 2.0–2.3	Quiz 3
F 6/08	Phrase structure, syntactic trees	CL 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.2, WALS 81,93,95	
Week 4: Syntax, Semantics, Pragmatics, Sociolinguistics			
M 6/11	Deep and surface structure, syntactic ambiguity	CL 5.3, LF 5.5.3, 9.6, WALS 102	
Tu 6/12	Syntactic typology, AAE	Green (2004), WALS 98	HW 3
W 6/13	Truth conditions, entailment,	LF 6.0–6.1, 6.3–6.4	
Th 6/14	Presuppositions, Grice's maxims	LF 7.2–7.3, 7.5	Quiz 4
F 6/15	Language variation	LF 10.0–10.3	

Week 5: Sociolinguistics, Historical Linguistics				
M	6/18	Social factors (race, class, gender, age, etc.) & language	LF 10.4–10.5, Fischer (1958), Labov (1972)	HW 4
Tu	6/19	Identity & language	Podesva (2011)	
W	6/20	Genetic relationships	LF 13.2, Crowley & Bower- ern (2010) 1.1, 15.1–15.4	
Th	6/21	Language change	LF 13.3, 13.7	Quiz 5
F	6/22	Language contact, creoles, multilingualism	LF 12.1–12.7	
Week 6: Language Diversity & Wrap-Up				
M	6/25	Endangered languages, revitalization	Wong Fillmore (2000), Hale (1992), Bommelyn & Tuttle (2018)	HW 5
Tu	6/26	Language & power, language activism	LF 11.3, Rickford & King (2016)	
W	6/27	Linguistic relativity	LF 11.2, WALS 132–135 Pica et al. (2004)	
Th	6/28	Review, applying linguistics	LF 17.0-17.6	Final
F	6/29	–	–	

Resources

A variety of resources are provided by the Student Learning Center <http://slc.berkeley.edu/> to help students with coursework, assignments, time management, and many other things.

If you are struggling for personal reasons, please know that you can contact Counseling and Psychological Services <https://uhs.berkeley.edu/counseling> for a free and timely consultation during business hours at (510) 642–9494 or after hours at (855) 817–5667.

Confidential advocates are available for survivors of gendered violence at the PATH to Care Center <http://sa.berkeley.edu/dean/confidential-care-advocate>, which can be reached at (510) 642–1988.

I would be very happy to help direct you to any of these resources. Just note that professors and GSIs are considered “responsible employees of the university. If a student divulges any specific incident of sexual harassment or violence to them, they are obliged to notify campus authorities.

Important Dates

<http://summer.berkeley.edu/registration/schedule>

Withdraw from summer session with partial refund	Sunday 05/27
Drop classes with refund	Sunday 05/27
Withdraw from summer session, no refund	Friday 06/01
Drop classes, no refund	Friday 06/01
Change grading option	Friday 06/15

References

- Berko, Jean. 1958. The child's learning of English morphology. *Word* 14:150–177.
- Bommelyn, Pyuwa and Tuttle, Ruby. 2018. Tolowa Dee-ni' Language in Our Home. In *The Routledge Handbook of Language Revitalization*, ed. Leanne Hinton, Leena Huss, and Gerald Roche, 155–122. Routledge.
- Carnie, Andrew. 2013. *Syntax: A generative introduction*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Crowley, Terry and Bower, Claire. 2010. *An introduction to historical linguistics*. Oxford University Press.
- Dawson, Hope and Phelan, Michael. 2016. *Language files: Materials for an introduction to language and linguistics*. Ohio State University Press, 12th edition.
- Dryer, Matthew S and Haspelmath, Martin. 2013. Wals online. *Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig* 96.
- Fillmore, Lily Wong. 2000. Loss of family languages: Should educators be concerned? *Theory into practice* 39:203–210.
- Fischer, John L. 1958. Social influences on the choice of a linguistic variant. *Word* 14:47–56.
- Green, Lisa. 2004. African american english. *Finegan, E. & Rickford, JR (eds.)* 76–91.
- Hale, Ken. 1992. Language endangerment and the human value of linguistic diversity. *Language* 68:35–42.
- Labov, William. 1972. *Sociolinguistic patterns*. 4. University of Pennsylvania Press.
- O'Grady, William and Archibald, John and Aronoff, Mark and Rees-Miller, Janie. 2010. *Contemporary linguistics: an introduction*. St. Martin's, 6th edition.
- Pica, Pierre and Lemer, Cathy and Izard, Véronique and Dehaene, Stanislas. 2004. Exact and approximate arithmetic in an amazonian indigene group. *Science* 306:499–503.
- Podesva, Robert J. 2011. The california vowel shift and gay identity. *American speech* 86:32–51.
- Rickford, John R and King, Sharese. 2016. Language and linguistics on trial: Hearing rachel jeantel (and other vernacular speakers) in the courtroom and beyond. *Language* 92:948–988.
- Werker, Janet F and Tees, Richard C. 1984. Cross-language speech perception: Evidence for perceptual reorganization during the first year of life. *Infant behavior and development* 7:49–63.