

I. CONTACT INFORMATION

Professor

Irene Appelbaum

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Teaching Assistant

Steven Buxbaum

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In-Person/Video-Chat Office Hrs: M, W, F 12-1; T, R 9-10; & by appointment

The Teaching Assistant will be available throughout the week to assist you with questions regarding the content of the material. He will be available in-person, by video-chat, or via email during the posted office hours, as well as by appointment. In general, he will respond to emails within 24 hours of receipt.

Technical Support

Technical support for Moodle is available through [UMOnline](#). The number for live phone support is: (406) 243-4999 or (866) 225-1641. If this is your first experience using Moodle, you may want to visit [Moodle 101 for Students](#).

II. OPTIONAL TEXTBOOK

Language Files: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics, 11th Edition by Department of Linguistics, The Ohio State University. Columbus: The Ohio State University Press (June 28, 2011). ISBN-10: 081425179X. (LF) [Note: This is the penultimate edition of the textbook. You may use the more recent 12th Edition, but sections and page numbers for individual readings are giving for the 11th Edition.]

The textbook is available for purchase at the UM [Bookstore](#).

Additional readings may be made available through the Moodle course site.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a broad introduction to the study of language and linguistics. In the first part of the course we will analyze language in terms of different levels of structure: the sounds of language (phonetics & phonology), words and word parts (morphology), and phrases and sentences (syntax). Central questions to be addressed include: How are the sounds of speech produced? How are complex words built up from simple words and word-parts? How are new words created? How are words grouped into grammatical categories? How does a sentence differ from a mere string of words? How can the structure of a sentence help explain its meaning? The second part of the course investigates a variety of topics including: how the meaning of an utterance changes depending on the speech situation (pragmatics); how the variety of a language spoken is influenced by geographical & social factors (language variation); how languages change over time (historical linguistics); how an infant acquires language (language acquisition); how language and culture interact; and factors leading to language endangerment.

IV. LEARNING OUTCOMES

After successfully completing this course, you should have an understanding of the basic units and principles involved in analyzing the sound, word, and sentence structure of language. More specific learning outcomes include:

- an understanding of how speech sounds are produced in the vocal tract
- the ability to transcribe basic English words and phrases phonetically
- an understanding of the difference between the phonemes and allophones of a language

- the ability to analyze complex words in terms of free and bound morphemes
- the ability to distinguish inflectional morphemes from derivational morphemes
- knowledge of how to diagram a variety of sentences
- an understanding of how the context of utterance affects meaning
- knowledge of how language varies depending on geographical and social factors
- an understanding of how languages change over time
- knowledge of the relative stages of language acquisition in the infant
- ability to identify brain structures involved in language processing

V. COURSE ORGANIZATION

This course is offered fully on-line. There will typically be **two PDF lectures** followed by **one or more associated quizzes** each week. In the second half of the course, there will also be **four open-ended assignments**. A reading assignment for each lecture has also been posted. The reading assignment is optional; you are encouraged but not required to do the reading. The quizzes and tests will be based exclusively on material in the lectures, but the readings may provide additional explanation. **The quizzes are due on Tuesdays and Fridays, by midnight (see below)**. The full week's material will be made available the Saturday before the week begins. You may work at your own pace during the week so long as you complete all the quizzes by the Tuesday and Friday deadlines. You should begin by working through the lecture and attempting the quizzes when prompted to do so within the lecture. Some quizzes cover the entire lecture; others pinpoint particular topics within the lecture. Though called "quizzes", they are essentially exercises to help you learn the material. While quizzes are graded (see below) you may take each quiz as often as you like prior to the deadline for that quiz, and only your highest grade will be counted. (So ideally everyone should get full credit for every quiz.) The length of the lectures and the number of quizzes vary considerably, so it is a good idea to begin each week it by taking a look at the lectures and number of quizzes to judge how best to pace yourself for the week. Beginning the second week of the semester, associated with each lecture, will be a **discussion topic**. (See VI. below for details.)

VI. ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Your work in this course will be assessed as follows:

Quizzes: As noted above, there are a varying number of quizzes associated with each of the two weekly lectures. You may take each quiz as often as you like until the quiz closes; only your highest grade will be counted. The quizzes associated with each lecture are worth a total of two points: if there is only one associated quiz, it is worth two points; if there are five quizzes, each is worth 0.4 pts. Answers to quizzes will be posted after the quiz closes. No late quizzes will be accepted.

Mid-Term Exam: There will be a mid-term exam on **Tuesday, October 22**. It will have the same format as the quizzes, but **you will have 30 minutes to complete the exam and you will only be allowed to take it once. You must sign up for a time-slot to take the exam**. The exam will be available to you only during your chosen time-slot. If you are unable to take the mid-term on the assigned day, you must inform the instructor as soon as possible, and in no case later than **Friday, Sept 13 at midnight**. More information about the structure and content of tests will be posted during the semester. A student who fails to take the test at the scheduled time and who does not have a written excuse from a medical doctor or other excused absence in accord with University Policy, will receive a zero for the test.

Final Exam: The final exam will be cumulative. It will be available on **Monday Dec. 9. You will have 45 minutes to take the test and you will be allowed one attempt. You must sign up for a time slot**. The exam will be available to you only during your chosen time-slot. If you are unable to take the mid-term on the assigned day, you must inform the instructor by as soon as possible, and in no case later than **Friday, Sept 13 at midnight**. The specific topics to be covered and the format of the final exam will be posted later in the semester. A student who fails to take the test at the scheduled time and who does not have a written excuse from a medical doctor or other excused absence in accord with University Policy, will receive a zero for the test.

From the [University Catalog](#): Students may seek relief from writing more than two examinations during the same day. Students who are scheduled for more than two examinations may contact the appropriate faculty to

arrange an alternate testing time during the scheduled final examination period. If satisfactory arrangements cannot be made, the student should seek the assistance of his or her dean.

Assignments: There will be 4 written assignments in addition to the quizzes. These are all due in the second half of the semester. (See above for due dates.) The assignments will consist of one or more open-ended questions based on the topic for that week. The length of each assignment will vary from 1-2 pages. Assignments are to be downloaded from Moodle, completed and uploaded. The acceptable file formats are Word, PDF, or ODT.

Discussion: Typically, there will be 2 discussion prompts per week (one for each lecture). You are required to contribute to discussion **once per week**; you are not required to contribute to every discussion prompt. Each discussion forum will be available for two weeks. (This is to allow you to contribute to a discussion in the week following that in which the topic is introduced.) There are no length requirements. It is expected that the length of individual responses will vary depending on the week. You will receive a grade for your contributions as a whole, not for individual posts.

Grades: Your course grade will be based on the following calculation:

- Quizzes (26 x 2% each lecture*) 52 % * See above for details.
- Mid-Term Exam 12 %
- Final Exam 16 %
- Assignments (4 x 3% each) 12 %
- Discussion 08 %
- 100 %

The grading scale used for final course grades will be the following:

93.00-100.00 % A	80.00-82.99 % B-	67.00-69.99 % D+
90.00-92.99 % A -	77.00-79.99 % C+	60.00-66.99 % D
87.00-89.99 % B+	73.00-76.99 % C	63.00-66.99 % D-
83.00- 86.99 % B	70.00-72.99 % C-	0.00-59.99 % F

VII. COURSE POLICIES

Extra Credit/Alternative Assignments: *No alternative extra-credit assignments will be given. Please do not ask.*

The requirements for this course have been chosen carefully and are, as the name implies, requirements.

Student Conduct Code: You are expected to adhere to the University of Montana [Student Conduct Code](#).

Academic Honesty: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.

Course Accommodations: The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you have a disability that adversely affects your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification. For more information, visit the [Disability Services](#) website.

Withdrawing from the Course: From the [Registrar](#): Through the 15th instructional day, **all** classes are dropped in CyberBear. From the 16th through the 45th instructional day, all classes must be dropped using Drop forms (instructor signature required, advisor signature required for undergraduates). **\$10 fee applies**. From the 46th to the last instructional day prior to finals week, classes must be dropped using the Drop form (instructor and Dean signatures required, advisor signature required for undergraduates). **\$10 fee applies**.

Email: In accordance with University policy: I will use only the email address provided for you on the Moodle website for class emails; I will only respond to emails sent to me from your University email address; and I will not communicate grade information via email. It is your responsibility to keep informed about information contained in email sent to your University email account.

VIII. COURSE OUTLINE*

Available	Topic	Quizzes Due	Assignments Due	Reading (Optional)
Sa 8/26	Introduction: What is Linguistics?		---	---
Morphology: The Structure of Words				
Sa 8/26	Morph I: Introduction to Morphemes	F 8/30	---	LF** 4.1.4, 4.1.5 pp. 152-
Sa 8/31	Morph II: Inflection and Derivation	T 9/03	---	LF 4.1.2, 4.1.3 pp. 150-152
Sa 8/31	Morph III: Forming New Words (Part 1)	F 9/06	---	TBA
Sa 9/07	Morph IV: Forming New Words (Part 2)	T 9/10	---	TBA
Sa 9/07	Morph V: Hierarchical Structure of Words	F 9/13	---	LF 4.4 pp. 170-173
Phonetics & Phonology: The Structure of Speech Sounds				
Sa 9/14	Phon I: Speech Production	T 9/17	---	LF 2.1.2, 2.2.1-2.2.3 pp.39,
Sa 9/14	Phon II: English Consonants	F 9/20	---	LF 2.2.4-2.2.7 pp. 47-52
Sa 9/21	Phon III: English Vowels	T 9/24	---	LF 2.3 pp. 53-57
Sa 9/21	Phon IV: Beyond English	F 9/27	---	LF 2.4 pp. 58-62
Sa 9/28	Phon V: Phonemes and Allophones	T 10/1	---	LF 3.2 pp. 108-115
Sa 9/28	Phon VI: Syllable Structure	F 10/4	---	LF 2.1.3 p. 40
Syntax: The Structure of Phrases and Sentences				
Sa 10/05	Syntax I: Syntactic Properties	T 10/08	---	LF 5.1, 5.2 pp. 197-210
Sa 10/05	Syntax II: Syntactic Constituency	F 10/11	---	LF 5.3 pp. 211-214
Sa 10/12	Syntax III: Syntactic Categories	T 10/15	---	LF 5.4 pp. 215-221
Sa 10/12	Syntax IV: Constructing a Grammar	F 10/18	---	LF 5.5 pp. 222-229
Language Context, Variation, and Change				
T 10/22	MID-TERM EXAM	T 10/22		
Sa 10/19	Semantics & Pragmatics	F 10/25	---	LF Ch. 7 pp. 271-298
Sa 10/26	Language Variation I	T 10/29	---	LF 10.1-10.4 pp. 409-435
Sa 10/26	Language Variation II	F 11/01	R 10/31	LF 10.5 pp. 436-441
Sa 11/02	Language and Culture I	T 11/5	---	LF 10.3-10.5 pp. 420-441
Sa 11/02	Language and Culture II	F 11/8	R 11/07	LF 11.1 - 11.2 pp. 453-467
Sa 11/09	Language Contact	T 11/12	---	LF 12.1-12.5 pp. 486-503
Sa 11/09	Language Endangerment	F 11/15	R 11/14	LF 12.6 pp. 504-507
Sa 11/16	Language Change I	T 11/19	---	LF 13.1,13.2 pp. 523-31
Sa 11/16	Language Change II	F 11/22	R 11/21	LF 13.3-13.6 pp. 532-547
Language Development and Processing				
Sa 11/23	Language Acquisition	T 11/26	---	LF Ch. 8 pp. 312-344
	<i>Thanksgiving</i>	---	---	---
Sa 11/30	Neurolinguistics & Psycholinguistics	T 12/03	---	LF 9.1, 9.2, 9.4 pp.356-366,
Sa 11/30	Conclusion: What is language?	---	---	LF 1.4. pp. 17-23
M 12/09	FINAL EXAM	M 12/09		

* Subject to change. See the Moodle course site for the most up-to-date information.

** LF = *Language Files*, 11th Edition (See II. above).