

I. CONTACT INFORMATION

Professor

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Virtual Office Hrs (Mtn Time):
M, W 9-10 & by appt.
(Zoom links for each Office HR
are posted on Moodle.)

Teaching Assistant

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Virtual Office Hrs (Mtn Time):
W 12-1; TH 11-12, F 2-3 & by appt.
(Zoom links for each Office HR
are posted on Moodle.)

Moodle

This is a fully on-line course. All material (including lecture notes, readings, and assignments) will be posted on the Moodle website for this course. To access this website, go to <https://moodle.umt.edu/login/> and log-in with your NET ID.

Technical Support

Technical support for Moodle is available through [UMOnline](#). The number for live phone support is: (406) 243- 4999 or (866) 225-1641 (toll-free). You can also reach them by visiting their website: <http://umonline.umt.edu/studentssupport>, by email: umonline-help@umontana.edu, or via the UMOonline Technical Support link within the Moodle course home page. If this is your first experience using Moodle, you may want to visit [Moodle 101 for Students](#).

II. OPTIONAL TEXTBOOK

The following textbook is recommended, but not required, for this course:

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 assignments for individual readings are given for the 11th Edition.]

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. It is organized by week (M-F, except for the first and last week of the semester). Each week will typically contain: PDF **Lectures** for you to read, **Quizzes** for you to take, and either a **Discussion Prompt** to reply to, or an **Assignment** to be uploaded. Additionally, there will be **three Tests** during the course of the semester. Each week also contains an **OPTIONAL Textbook Reading Assignment** associated with each lecture. 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 week's material will be made available no later than Saturday AM prior to the beginning of the week. You may work at your own pace during the week so long as you complete the week's requirements on time. (See below for details.) The length of the lectures and quizzes vary considerably, so it is a good idea to begin each week it by taking a look at the lectures and quizzes to judge how best to pace yourself for the week.

VI. ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Your work in this course will be assessed as follows:

QUIZZES: There will typically be **two quizzes each week**. (For weeks in which a test is given, there will only be one quiz and it will be due on Thursday.) Each quiz is worth 1% of your final grade. You may take each quiz **twice**; only your higher grade will be counted. Late quizzes will be accepted for up to **one week**, for up to **half credit**.

TESTS: There will be **three Tests** during the semester. The tests dates are: **Sep 11, Oct 2, and Oct 16**. Tests will be available from **8 AM to 8 PM (Mtn Time)**. The tests will have the same format as the quizzes, but **you will have 30 minutes to complete the exam and you will only be allowed one attempt**. If you anticipate being unable to take a test on the assigned day, you must inform the instructor as soon as possible, and in no case later than **Fri. Aug 28**. 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.

DISCUSSION: Beginning with the second week of the semester and continuing through the week of 10/12, there will be **2 Discussion Prompts** per week. **You are required to respond to only one of the two prompts each week**. 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.

ASSIGNMENTS: Beginning the week of 10/19, there will be weekly written **Assignments**. 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

FINAL EXAM: The Final Exam will be cumulative. It will be available on **Monday, Nov 23 from 8 AM to 8 PM**. **You will have 40 minutes to take the test and you will be allowed one attempt**. If you are unable to take the Final Exam on the assigned day, you must inform the instructor by as soon as possible, and in no case later

than **Fri. Aug 28**. 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 final exam 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 final exam.

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.

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

- 22 Quizzes (1% each) 22%
- Tests (3 x 10% each) 30%
- Assignments (5 x 4% each) 20%
- Final Exam 20%
- Discussion (8 x 1% each) 08%

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+	63.00-66.99 %	D
87.00-89.99 %	B+	73.00-76.99 %	C	60.00-62.99 %	D-
83.00-86.99 %	B	70.00-72.99 %	C-	0.00-59.99 %	F

VII. COURSE POLICIES

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.

COVID-19: All students are strongly encouraged to remain vigilant in mitigating the spread of COVID-19. Stay home if you feel sick and/or if exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms. Stay up-to-date on COVID-19 Information from the University: <https://www.umt.edu/coronavirus>; <https://www.umt.edu/coronavirus/fall2020.php>.

VIII. COURSE OUTLINE*

Week	Topic	What's Due This Week	Optional Reading
W 8/19	Introduction	---	---
Morphology: The Structure of Words			
M 8/24	I: Introduction to Morphemes	TH 8/27: Quiz 1	LF** 4.1.4, 4.1.5
	II: Inflection & Derivation	F 8/28: Quiz 2; Discussion Post 1	LF 4.1.2, 4.1.3
M 8/31	III: Forming New words (1)	TH 9/03: Quiz 3	AAL pp. 24-28
	IV: Forming New Words (2)	F 9/04: Quiz 4; Discussion Post 2	AAL pp. 29-32
M 9/7	V. Hierarchical Structure of Words	TH 9/10: Quiz 5	LF 4.4
	TEST 1	F 9/11: Test 1 ; Discussion Post 3	---
Phonetics & Phonology: The Structure of Speech Sounds			
M 9/14	I: Speech Production; Consonants (1)	TH 9/17: Quiz 6	LF 2.2.1-2.2.4
	II: Consonants (2)	F 9/18: Quiz 7; Discussion Post 4	LF 2.2.3, 2.2.5, 2.2.7
M 9/21	III: Vowels	TH 9/24: Quiz 8	LF 2.3
	IV: Phonemes & Allophones	F 9/25: Quiz 9; Discussion Post 5	LF 3.2
M 9/28	V: Syllable Structure	TH 10/01: Quiz 10	LF 2.1.3
	TEST 2	F 10/02: Test 2 ; Discussion Post 6	---
Syntax: The Structure of Phrases and Sentences			
M 10/05	I: Syntactic Properties	TH 10/08: Quiz 11	LF 5.1, 5.2
	II: Syntactic Constituency	F 10/09: Quiz 12; Discussion Post 7	LF 5.3
M 10/12	III: Syntactic Categories	TH 10/15: Quiz 13	LF 5.4
	TEST 3	F 10/16: Test 3 ; Discussion Post 8	---
Language Context, Variation, and Change			
M 10/19	Pragmatics	TH 10/22: Quiz 14	LF Ch. 7
	Language Contact & Endangerment	F 10/23: Quiz 15; Assignment 1	LF 12.1-12.6
M 10/26	Language Variation	TH 10/29: Quiz 16	LF 10.1-10.5
	Language & Culture	F 10/30: Quiz 17; Assignment 2	LF 11.1 - 11.5
M 11/02	Language Change (1)	TH 11/05: Quiz 18	LF 13.1,13.2
	Language Change (2)	F 11/06: Quiz 19; Assignment 3	LF 13.3-13.6
Language Development and Processing			
M 11/09	Language Acquisition	TH 11/12: Quiz 20	LF Ch. 8
	Neurolinguistics & Psycholinguistics	F 11/13: Quiz 21; Assignment 4	LF 9.1, 9.2, 9.4
M 11/16	Design Features of Language	W 11/18: Quiz 22; Assignment 5	LF 1.4
M 11/23	FINAL EXAM	M 11/23	---

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

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