

# Linguistic Analysis

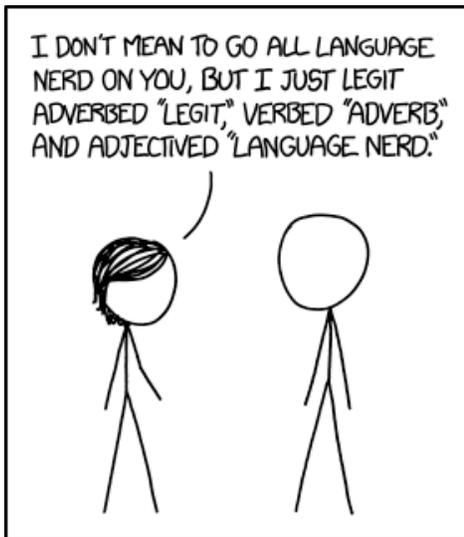
## LING 470

University of Montana

Autumn 2020

(Online)

### SYLLABUS



xkcd.com

*I've always found the study of language intriguing. I had a linguistics professor who always said, "It's man's ability to use language that makes him the dominant species on the planet." I wouldn't go that far. I think what sets us apart from other animals is that we aren't afraid of vacuum cleaners.*  
– Jeff Stilson (comedian)

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*The University of Montana acknowledges that we are in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people. We honor the path they have always shown us in caring for this place for the generations to come.*

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#### Office hours and contact information

##### Instructor: Leora Bar-el (she/her/hers)

✉ leora.bar-el@umontana.edu

- 📺 Weekly online office hours (Mountain Time) - follow Zoom link on Moodle:
  - Wednesdays 11am-12pm
  - Thursdays 4pm-5pm
  - Fridays 2pm-3pm
  - and by appointment (see below)

📅 For other meeting times, use my online scheduler (follow link on Moodle). Available meeting times will be updated weekly. You are welcome to sign-up for a meeting slot up to 24hrs before a selected time.

##### Teaching Assistant: Steven Buxbaum (he/him/his)

✉ steven.buxbaum@umontana.edu

- 📺 Weekly online office hours (Mountain Time) - follow Zoom link on Moodle:
  - Mondays 12pm-1pm
  - Tuesdays 2pm-3pm
  - Wednesdays 12pm-1pm
  - and by appointment; [e-mail](#) to schedule

#### Course meeting times and venue

This is an online course that runs for the entire Autumn 2020 semester August 19-November 25. The course is taught online through [Moodle](#) (click on Moodle NetID Login).

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#### Course description

This course focuses on linguistic analysis. We will look at the formal properties of language and the ways in which these properties are studied by linguists, concentrating on five core components of linguistic analysis: *phonetics* (sounds of language), *phonology* (sound patterns), *morphology* (word structure), *syntax* (sentence structure), and *semantics* (meaning). We will be looking at data from a variety of languages across the world. We will be asking questions such as "What does it mean to know a language?" and "In what ways are languages the same and in what ways are they different?"

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#### Prerequisites

This course has no prerequisites, though an interest in language(s) is an asset!

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## Technical Support

UMOnline: 406-243-4999 or toll-free 866-225-1641; [email](#); [website](#)

IT Central: 406-243-4357; [e-mail](#); [website](#)

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## Course structure

The content of the course is cumulative so it is important that you work through the material in the order it is presented and that you keep up to date with all course material and deadlines. The schedule on page 6-7 of this syllabus gives a suggested pace of the course, though reading and working ahead is just fine. This course is divided into five **modules** the topics of which correspond to Chapters 2-6 of our textbook. A short introduction will also be presented at the beginning of the semester – see Chapter 1 of our textbook. At the end of our course we will wrap-up and review the course material prior to the final exam.

Each module is divided into **units**. The units contain downloadable slides that present the central concepts of that unit, as well as **practice exercises** and corresponding answer keys. Submission of the practice exercises are not required, however, you are encouraged to try them out as they will help ensure that you understand the content of the units.

Throughout this course you will complete five “**Check-in**” **activities**, which may include an introductory questionnaire, polls, responses from prompts, or short posts. You will complete and submit 17 “**Homework**” (**HW**) **exercises**. These short HW exercises will ensure that you are keeping up with and understand the material you are learning and the skills you are acquiring. There are also four **assignments** that you are required to complete and submit during this course. They cover the first four topics of our course (phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax). There is no assignment for the semantics module, though the semantics module will be covered on our **practice exam** and our **final exam**.

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## Learning outcomes

Each of the assessed components of this course listed below focuses on helping you achieve the learning outcomes of this course. Upon successful completion of this course, you will:

- (a) understand the methods that linguists use to study the formal properties of language,
- (b) be able to make generalizations about data from familiar and unfamiliar languages,
- (c) be able to formulate and test a hypothesis,
- (d) have the foundation needed to take further courses in linguistics.

### Learning outcomes by module

MODULE	LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT
PHONETICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transcribe English words/phrases using the International Phonetic Alphabet</li> <li>• Provide articulatory descriptions of sounds in all natural languages</li> <li>• Discover natural classes of sounds in all languages</li> <li>• Understand suprasegmental features such as pitch, length and stress</li> </ul>	HW1-3 A1 Practice exam Final exam
PHONOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discover phonemes and allophones in familiar and unfamiliar languages</li> <li>• Discover phonological processes observed across languages</li> <li>• Write phonological rules that account for allophonic variation</li> <li>• Understand the hierarchical structure of syllables</li> </ul>	HW4-8 A2 Practice exam Final exam
MORPHOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discover morphemes and allomorphs in familiar and unfamiliar languages</li> <li>• Discover morphological processes across languages</li> <li>• Understand the hierarchical structure of morphologically complex words</li> <li>• Identify derivational and inflectional morphemes across languages</li> </ul>	HW9-12 A3 Practice exam Final exam
SYNTAX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand and discover syntactic categories in familiar/unfamiliar languages</li> <li>• Understand the hierarchical structure of sentences and phrase structure rules that regulate them and represent those structures in phrase structure trees</li> <li>• Discover constituents and the parts of the phrase they consist of</li> <li>• Analyze the syntactic structure of familiar and unfamiliar languages</li> </ul>	HW13-16 A4 Practice exam Final exam
SEMANTICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand how meaning of words, phrases and sentences are described.</li> <li>• Analyze how semantic meaning is determined by its parts.</li> <li>• Understand how meaning can be affected by context (pragmatics)</li> </ul>	HW 17 Practice exam Final exam

**Assessment (undergraduate)**

Check-ins	(5 x 1% each)	5%
Homework	(17 x 1% each)	17%
Assignments	(4 x 10% each)	40%
Practice exam		8%
Final exam		30%

- There are five **Check-in** activities throughout the course (e.g., questionnaires, polls, responses to a prompt, etc.). Check-ins are due by 4pm Mountain Time on 8/21, 9/4, 10/16, 11/6, 11/16. Unless prior arrangements have been made or extenuating circumstances arise, check-ins not completed by the deadline cannot be accepted and will result in a 0% grade for that check-in activity.
- **Homework (HW)** consists of 17 short exercises designed to put your new skills into practice and to ensure that you understand the material. Each completed HW exercise will receive a grade of 100% for that HW. Unless otherwise noted, HW exercises are due by 4pm Mountain Time on Wednesdays and Fridays (see schedule below for dates). Unless prior arrangements have been made or extenuating circumstances arise, HW not completed by the deadline cannot be accepted and will result in a 0% grade for that HW.
- **Assignments** will be available for downloading one week before they are due and will cover all the material in the module. Unless otherwise noted, Assignments are due by 4pm Mountain Time (see schedule below for dates). Unless prior arrangements have been made or extenuating circumstances arise, assignments submitted within 24 hours following the deadline will receive a maximum grade of 50% for that assignment. Unless prior arrangements have been made or extenuating circumstances arise, assignments submitted after that cannot be accepted and will result in a 0% grade for that assignment.
- In the last week of our course, prior to our final exam, you will complete a **practice exam**. Further information will be available later in the course.
- The **final exam** will take place during finals week. Further information will be available later in the course. General information about finals week is available on the [registrar's website](#).

**Assessment (graduate)**

Check-ins	(5 x 1% each)	5%
Homework	(17 x 1% each)	17%
Assignments	(4 x 10% each)	40%
Practice exam		3%
Final exam		25%
Squib		10%

In addition to undergraduate requirements, graduate students will write a 5-page squib. Squibs are due by **9am Mountain Time Tuesday November 24**. Further information will be made available later in the semester.

**Grading criteria**

A	93-100%	B+	87-89%	C+	77-79%	D+	67-69%	F	Below 60%
A-	90-92%	B	83-86%	C	73-76%	D	63-66%		
		B-	80-82%	C-	70-72%	D-	60-62%		

**Textbook**

- O'Grady, William, John Archibald, Mark Aronoff, Janie Rees-Miller. 2017. *Contemporary Linguistics: An Introduction 7th Edition*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's (Macmillan Learning).

- As a result of restrictions on course reserves at the [Mansfield Library](#) due to COVID-19, a copy of our textbook is not available to check out from the library. However, Chapters 1-4 of the textbook can be downloaded from our course Moodle site (in the **Textbook** section).
- Our textbook can also be purchased or rented from the [UM Bookstore](#) (Textbooks tab), or from other book sellers.
- If you have an older edition of the textbook, you can use it for this course, though be aware that the page numbers listed in our syllabus and throughout the course units will refer to the 7<sup>th</sup> edition. As well, there are some important discrepancies between the editions that you need to be aware of. If you are planning to use an older edition of the textbook, speak to me about this.
- Even if you don't understand everything in each chapter, it is to your advantage to be familiar with the topic before progressing through the units.
- You may find the following book a useful resource:
  - Crystal, David. 2008. *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics 6<sup>th</sup> edition*. Malden, MA: Blackwell. [The [Mansfield Library](#) has [an electronic version of the current \(6<sup>th</sup>\) edition](#). You may need to login to your library account to access this online version].

### Phonetic Font

- In order to view the phonetic symbols in our course files and to use these symbols to complete your coursework electronically, you must have a phonetic Unicode font installed on your computer. This course uses **Doulos SIL**, a free font available for both Mac and PC operating systems. The font can be downloaded from the [Doulos SIL Download webpage](#).
- Instructions on how to download and install the fonts will vary depending on your computer and operating system. Some advice and links are available from the [Doulos SIL Installing and Using Fonts webpage](#).

*Please note that the font is a tool, not a program that you "run". What you will be using the font for will become clear once we start the course. If you need any help installing fonts, please ask!*

### Course Policies and Procedures

- **STUDENT CONDUCT CODE:** You are expected to be familiar with the *University of Montana Student Conduct Code*, which is downloadable from the [Community Standards webpage](#). You are also expected to be familiar with the University of Montana Academic Policies and Procedures, which can be found on the [Academic Policies and Procedures webpage](#).
- **E-MAIL:** Course information will be circulated by e-mail to your UM e-mail address (usually via Moodle, but in some cases, directly to your individual e-mail address). Check your UM e-mail account often. **You are responsible for ensuring that you are able to receive any course information circulated by e-mail.**
- **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:** Using the Moodle learning environment requires your computer to be set up to view and download documents (.pptx, .ppsx, .docx, .pdf), webpages, etc. More information can be found on the [UMOnline student support website](#). Contact UMOOnline for assistance: 406-243-4999 or toll-free 866-225-1641; [UMOnline technical support e-mail address](#). For those of you who are new to the Moodle Learning Environment, please visit [UMOnline](#), follow the **Moodle NedID Login** link, and once you have logged in, click on the **Moodle 101 for Students** (under Useful Links). Note that UM students get access to a free license of [Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus](#).
- **SUBMITTING GRADED WORK:** Unless otherwise noted, completed work must be uploaded to Moodle as .pdf or .docx files. Files should be named with your last name and an appropriate code (e.g., Doe HW1 or Doe\_A2). Unless otherwise indicated or an exception is granted, uploaded work must be typed.
- **COURSE ACCOMMODATION:** The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and [Disability Services for Students](#) (DSS). If you have a disability that adversely affects your academic performance, and you have not yet registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406-243-2243. If you are already working with Disability Services your responsibilities are to contact me as soon as possible. I will work with you and Disability Services to discuss reasonable and appropriate accommodations. For more information, visit the [Disability Services for Students](#) website.

- CULTURAL AND CEREMONIAL LEAVE (see [Academic Policies and Procedures](#)) "Cultural or ceremonial leave allows excused absences for cultural, religious, and ceremonial purposes to meet the student's customs and traditions or to participate in related activities. To receive an authorized absence for a cultural, religious or ceremonial event the student or their advisor (proxy) must submit a formal written request to the instructor. This must include a brief description (with inclusive dates) of the cultural event or ceremony and the importance of the student's attendance or participation. Authorization for the absence is subject to approval by the instructor. Appeals may be made to the Chair, Dean or Provost. The excused absence or leave may not exceed five academic calendar days (not including weekends or holidays). Students remain responsible for completion or make-up of assignments as defined in the syllabus, at the discretion of the instructor."

### 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. All students must be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).
- You are welcome (and encouraged!) to work together with classmates, but you must write up your submitted work on your own.

### Basic Needs

Any student who faces challenges securing food or housing, and believes that this could affect their performance in this course, is urged to contact any or all of the following campus resources:

- The [UM Food Pantry](#) is located in UC 119. Emergency food for students can be accessed from there and from satellite food cupboards across campus.
- The [ASUM Renter Center](#) offers information, support and referrals for UM students at risk of homelessness or food insecurity.
- [TRiO Student Support Services](#) serves UM students who are low-income, first-generation college students, or have documented disabilities. Services include a textbook loan program, scholarships and financial aid help, academic advising, coaching, and tutoring. Students can check their [eligibility online](#).

### Coronavirus

This Autumn 2020 semester, we find ourselves in the midst of a pandemic. Although our course is fully online, you may be taking face-to-face courses or using facilities on campus. Below are some resources to help navigate the Autumn 2020 semester. If you have questions, please ask.

- [UM Coronavirus Updates](#)
- [UM Healthy Fall 2020 Plan](#)
- [UM Keep on Learning](#)
- Familiarize yourself with the [UM Mask Policy](#)
- Pick up your [Healthy Griz Kit](#)
- Self-assess your health regularly; contact [Curry Health Center](#) if you develop COVID-19 symptoms.

*Help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Protect yourselves and each other.*

### Schedule at a glance (subject to change)

Weeks	Topics
1-3	Introduction; Module 1: Phonetics
4-6	Module 2: Phonology
7-9	Module 3: Morphology
10-12	Module 4: Syntax
13	Module 5: Semantics
14	Course wrap-up and review
Finals week	

**Detailed Schedule (subject to change)**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Modules/Units<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Deadlines<sup>2</sup></b>
1	Aug 19-21	<b>Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is Linguistics? [Ch 1: p1-13]</li> </ul> <b>Module 1: Phonetics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit A - Sounds &amp; segments [Ch 2: p17-25]</li> </ul>	Chk-in 1 (due 8/21)
2	Aug 24-28	<b>Phonetics (cont'd)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit B - Consonants [Ch 2: p26-38]</li> <li>Unit C - Vowels [Ch 2: p38-44]</li> </ul>	HW1 (due 8/26) HW2 (due 8/28)
3	Aug 31-Sept 4	<b>Phonetics (cont'd)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit D - Natural classes</li> <li>Unit E - Suprasegmentals [Ch 2: p45-50]</li> <li>Module wrap-up [Ch 2: p56-60, p60-62]</li> </ul>	HW3 (due 9/2) Chk-in 2 (due 9/4)
4	Sept 8-11	<b>**Sept 7 Labor Day – no classes**</b> <b>Phonology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit A - Phonemes &amp; allophones [Ch 3: p69-79, p107-8 (#1-2)]</li> </ul>	A1 (due 9/9) HW4 (due 9/11)
5	Sept 14-18	<b>Phonology (cont'd)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit B - Features [Ch 3: p91-101]</li> <li>Unit C - Phonological rules [Ch 3: p102-5, p108-9 (#3)]</li> </ul>	HW5 (due 9/16) HW6 (due 9/18)
6	Sept 21-25	<b>Phonology (cont'd)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit D - Phonological processes [Ch 2: p51-56<sub>3</sub>; Ch.3: p110]</li> <li>Unit E - Syllable structure [Ch 3: p79-91]</li> <li>Module wrap-up [Ch 3: p105-7]</li> </ul>	HW7 (due 9/23) HW8 (due 9/25)
7	Sept 28-Oct 2	<b>Morphology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit A - Morphemes [Ch 4: p121-4]</li> <li>Unit B - Morphophonology [Ch 4: p124-5, p151, p153-4]</li> </ul>	A2 (due 9/30) HW9 (due 10/2)
8	Oct 5-9	<b>Morphology (cont'd)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit C - Morphological processes [Ch 4: p125-9, p142-50]</li> <li>Unit D - Derivation and Inflection [Ch 4: p129-142]</li> </ul>	HW10 (due 10/7) HW11 (due 10/9)
9	Oct 12-16	<b>Morphology (cont'd)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit E - Hierarchical structure of words [Review Ch4: p129-134]</li> <li>Module wrap-up [Ch 4: p151-3]</li> </ul>	HW12 (due 10/14) Chk-in 3 (due 10/16)
10	Oct 19-23	<b>Syntax</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit A - Categories [Ch 5: p167-172]</li> <li>Unit B - Phrase structure [Ch 5: p172-8, p207-9]</li> </ul>	A3 (due 10/21) HW13 (due 10/23)
11	Oct 26-30	<b>Syntax (cont'd)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit C - Constituency [Ch 5: p178-9]</li> <li>Unit D - Parts of the phrase [Ch 5: p179-183, p198-9]</li> </ul>	HW14 (due 10/28) HW15 (due 10/30)
12	Nov 2-6	<b>**Nov 3 Elections Day – no classes**</b> <b>Syntax (cont'd)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit E - Word-order typology</li> <li>Module wrap-up</li> </ul>	HW16 (due 11/4) Chk-in 4 (due 11/6)

<sup>1</sup> "Unit" refers to downloadable slides and practice exercises on Moodle. "Ch." refers to chapters from our textbook O'Grady et al. 2017. Page numbers in square brackets refer to the relevant textbook sections (7<sup>th</sup> edition) corresponding to that unit.

<sup>2</sup> Unless otherwise noted, graded work must be uploaded to Moodle by 4pm Mountain Time on the dates listed in the schedule.

<sup>3</sup> Phonological processes are discussed in Chapter 2 of our textbook.

13	Nov 9-13	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>**Nov 11 Veterans Day – no classes</i></p> <p><b>Semantics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unit A: Lexical semantics [Ch 6: p217-27]</li> <li>• Unit B: Compositional semantics [Ch 6: p235-41]</li> <li>• Unit C: Pragmatics [Ch 6: p245-51]</li> </ul>	A4 (due **9am Mountain Time Thursday 11/12**) HW17 (due 11/13)
14	Nov 16-18	<b>Course wrap-up and review</b>	Chk-in 5 (due **Monday 11/16**) Practice exam (due **Tuesday 11/17**) <sup>4</sup>
<b>FINALS WEEK NOV 19-25</b>			

***This syllabus is subject to change***

<sup>4</sup> Due to the shortened schedule, the deadlines for this week are moved to Monday and Tuesday.