

LING/PSY 201 *Introduction to Linguistics*

Spring 2020

INSTRUCTOR: Jonathan Geary

EMAIL: jonathangeary@email.arizona.edu

COURSE ROOM: Harshbarger 206

COURSE TIME: MW 9:30-10:45

OFFICE: Douglass 305

OFFICE HOURS: MW 11:00-12:00 (or by appointment; please contact me via email)

COURSE WEBSITE: <http://d2l.arizona.edu>

Course Description:

This course is cross-listed in Linguistics and Psychology. It is intended for students entering the field of linguistics or related disciplines (e.g. psychology, philosophy, speech and hearing sciences), as well as for those who are merely curious. The primary theme we will explore is the nature of language: we will take language apart and examine all its pieces (e.g. sounds, morphemes, words) in order to see how it works. Language is composed of many intricately threaded sub-structures, which we will explore together. In so doing, you will gain a deeper understanding of and appreciation of language.

Objectives: This course will cover the fundamental principles of linguistics, including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics.

Learning outcomes: At the end of the term, students will be able to do the following:

1. Formulate clear questions about the structure, nature, and use of language and explain the answers to others.
2. Examine and assess language variation (among individuals and dialects) and diversity.
3. Conduct analysis on a variety of different languages using linguistic tools and theories. [Relates to Linguistics Undergraduate Program outcome #1].
4. Engage in scientific inquiry by forming research questions and testing hypotheses about language and explain to others how studying linguistics requires such inquiry.
5. Identify and describe language patterns around the world. [Relates to Linguistics Undergraduate Program outcome #2].
6. Conduct independent research and analyses on language in novel and easily accessible ways. [Relates to Linguistics Undergraduate Program outcome #4].

Course Website: All materials (e.g. readings, assignments, quizzes) will be made available on D2L to the extent possible, along with weekly announcements, updates, and other interesting information. You should make a point of checking the course website on a daily basis.

Textbook: There is no required textbook. All required readings will be posted on D2L. Students are responsible for the information in the assigned readings. The readings are not guaranteed to be discussed in class, but the instructor can discuss the readings during office hours or by email.

Grading: Grades will be based on a point system. The course will be graded out of 500 points, which you can earn by completing the assignments described below. **No late work will be accepted without a legitimate, documented excuse (see Course Policies below).**

A = 450-500 points; B = 400-449 points; C = 350-399 points; D = 300-349 points; E ≤ 299 points

Assignments:

Attendance and Participation (40 points)	= 40 points
Discussion Activities (60 points):	
D2L Discussion Board Posts (6 at 10 points each)	= 60 points
Quizzes (120 points):	
Content Quizzes (6 at 20 points each)	= 120 points
Problem Sets (100 points):	
Problem Sets (4 at 25 points each)	= 100 points
Everyday Linguistics Assignments (80 points):	
Assignments (2 at 40 points each)	= 80 points
Final Exam (100 points)	= 100 points
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Total	= 500 points

Description of Major Assignments**(0) Syllabus Quiz (0 points)**

An untimed syllabus quiz will become available under the ‘Quiz’ tab on the first day of class. You may retake the syllabus quiz as many times as necessary, but you must receive a 100% on the quiz to have access to any other course materials (besides the syllabus).

(1) Attendance and Participation (40 points)

Attendance will be recorded daily; late arrival or early departure without prior approval, inattentive or disruptive behaviors (e.g. the use of your computer for anything other than notetaking), or non-participation in class activities counts as a full absence. *The purpose of this is to make sure that you are attending class and remaining engaged with the material.*

(2) Discussion Activities (60 points)

You will participate in six D2L discussion boards. Your post will be guided by the topic for that board and will include a bit of data collection, the results of which you will share as your post. It is important that you read the prompt and instructions for the discussion board BEFORE you read others’ commentary and post yourself, because you will need to have first collected some linguistic data to share. Replies to classmates’ posts are optional.

Discussion board assignments will be graded based on your mastery of the course content and the substance of your post. *The purpose of these assignments is for you to conduct independent investigations on linguistic topics, extending the concepts discussed in class, as well as for you to practice applying terms/concepts you learned about in the course. Further, as we will discuss these topics in-class, these assignments provide an opportunity for you to research and thus contribute to in-class discussions in a more informed manner.*

(3) Quizzes (120 points)

You will complete six 20-question quizzes on the content from each unit (the course will be divided into six units, each of which focuses on a different linguistic topic), and you will have 60 minutes to do so. You may make one attempt at each quiz. *The purpose of the quizzes is to make sure that you are keeping on top of the readings and lectures.*

(4) Problem Sets (100 points)

You will complete four 25-question Problem Sets that will focus exclusively on data analysis. Problem Sets are not timed, and you may make one attempt at each problem set. *The purpose of the problem sets is to give you practice in linguistic data analysis.*

(5) Everyday Linguistics Assignments (80 points)

You will complete two research assignments for this course. These will require you to conduct small, informal studies of language and its use in everyday life. *The purpose of these assignments is to give you experience conducting linguistic research and making analyses, as well as for you to demonstrate your mastery of course concepts.*

(6) Final Exam (100 points)

You will complete one final exam which will cover content from all units. *The purpose of this assignment is to assess your mastery of and ability to synthesize the course content.*

(7) Extra Credit (30 points, maximum)

There are various ways for you to earn extra points towards your overall grade in this class (and I may share other extra credit opportunities as the semester unfolds):

Experiment Participation: You can earn extra credit by participating in linguistics research studies. Research studies are announced and organized in an online system called [SONA](#). To access available studies, you first need to request an account, which you can learn how to do here: <https://linguistics.arizona.edu/research-opportunities>. Once you've requested an account, you will receive an email with your login credentials. Once you've created a SONA account, log into Sona to see available studies and to sign up for participation in one or more studies. Participation in a study will typically earn you 1-2 credits on SONA, and each credit is worth 5 points in this class.

Office Hours: You can earn extra credit by meeting with me to discuss course content. You must come to these meetings prepared with substantive questions about course material or something related to linguistics (grade queries, quiz review, etc. do not count, nor does simply asking me to explain one of the readings). Each office hours visit is worth 5 points, though whether a visit "counts" for extra credit is up to the discretion of the instructor.

Assignments are due by **10:00 PM** on the date listed in the course calendar. If you anticipate this being an issue (e.g. because you work until 10:00 PM), please contact me immediately.

Course Policies

Course deadlines are NOT flexible without the prior approval of the instructor. No late work will be accepted. If you have an emergency, you must notify me as soon as possible, AND provide documentation of the emergency, AND complete the work as promptly as possible, given the circumstances (we will determine a schedule together).

If, for instance, you skip an assignment and later realize that you needed to complete that assignment to receive a particular grade, I will NOT allow you to submit the assignment late. Technical glitches in uploading documents, taking quizzes, reviewing material, etc. are not valid reasons for missing deadlines. Although technical issues with D2L are not unheard of, they are not sufficient excuses for a late assignment or submission. Please plan ahead so that any technical issues you may have can be addressed in plenty of time to meet posted deadlines (take screenshots to document your difficulties, which can also support the legitimacy of your issue). If you need special access to accommodate an early schedule, please let me know at least one week in advance so that I can make the relevant adjustments in D2L. Assignments will NOT be accepted late and/or CANNOT be made up unless you have a documented medical or family emergency, have a Dean's Excuse, or must miss required work for religious reasons (as recognized by UA policy). If you miss coursework for any other reason, you will lose points for that assignment.

Students facing exceptional circumstances: If exceptional circumstances arise or are anticipated during the term, such as chronic illness, pregnancy or childbirth, trauma, or an emergency with unforeseen and long-term impacts, please contact me as soon as possible to inform me of the situation and negotiate a change of the schedule for the class (if necessary). Should I approve such a modification, I expect regular and timely contact during the semester, which includes informing me immediately of any changes to your situation that may impact your ability to fully participate in the class and/or to meet deadlines under the approved alternate schedule. It is your responsibility to inform me prior to or immediately following a (missed) revised deadline so that we can work together to accommodate its effect on your course participation. Again, it is imperative that you keep in continued and consistent contact with me in order for me to be able to accommodate your needs and so that I can adjust my schedule accordingly. Failure to keep in touch will be considered a deviation from our agreement and may result in said agreement becoming null and void.

You are required to cite your sources in any written assignment you submit. Give credit where credit is due; if an idea is not yours, you cannot present it as yours. If you do not cite your sources where appropriate, you will not receive credit for the assignment. I do not care how you cite your sources (you can use MLA, APA, Chicago, or something else), as long as you cite your sources in some way. I understand that this may be new to some students. If that is the case, or if you have questions regarding what needs cited, please contact me so that I may help you.

For any assignment that requires you to collect data from another person, you must tell them that you are collecting data for a class assignment and you must keep their identities anonymous in reporting your results. You should not tell them the purpose of your experiment/assignment beforehand (tell them after so that you do not bias their responses), but you must tell them beforehand that you are collecting data for a class, and in reporting your results you must keep their identities anonymous. If you fail to do this, you will not receive credit for the assignment.

Email etiquette: Please feel free to call me "Jonathan" or "Jon". If referring to your instructors by their first name makes you uncomfortable, you may also call me "Mr. Geary". Please do not refer to me as "Dr. Geary" or "Professor Geary", as I am still a PhD-candidate and have not yet earned those titles. Please keep your emails respectful and informative. I can help you best if you are clear and polite in your correspondence, and I will reply in kind.

You must motivate yourself. It is your responsibility to check D2L *every day*. You are responsible for your own participation. You are responsible for reading all assigned readings and for completing all assignments on time.

Grading Philosophy: Your grade in this course will reflect the quality and timeliness of submitted assignments as well as your level of mastery of the course objectives as demonstrated on these assignments. Arguing a grade based on any criteria aside from these is inappropriate.

Grade Review Policy: If at any point you feel that you have received a grade that is unfair or inaccurate, please inform me in writing of your concern within **one week** of having received the grade. I will consider the issue carefully and reply to you as soon as possible with either a grade correction or a justification of why I believe the original grade should stand. In no case will your request for a grade review result in punitive measures being taken against you in this course. You are encouraged to request clarification or correction for any grading concern.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are comfortable with the technologies that are necessary for successful participation in this course. If you have questions or concerns about the technological aspects of this course, there are university resources that are available to help you:

For general computing questions: http://uits.arizona.edu/departments/the247#_blank.
For help with D2L: e-mail d2l@email.arizona.edu.

Technical problems with D2L are to be expected. You must consider this possibility and have a back-up plan for completing your work on time. If you do experience a technical problem that is beyond your control (network interruptions, etc.), notify me as soon as possible, AND submit a problem report to the D2L team as promptly as possible, AND complete the work ASAP. If you do not follow these instructions, late work will not be accepted.

To submit a problem report to D2L:

- (a) Go to the D2LHelp page at <http://help.D2L.arizona.edu> and click on “Report a Problem,” OR
- (b) e-mail d2l@email.arizona.edu, and copy the instructor: jonathangeary@email.arizona.edu.

Academic Integrity Policy: While you are encouraged to form study groups to discuss your homework assignments for the course, all work (except group lab reports) must be typed and completed individually.

- It is not acceptable to collaborate in any way on exams.
- It is not acceptable to submit work for this course which has been previously submitted by you or by anyone else for academic credit at any time.
- It is not acceptable to falsify any component of any document that you submit to this class for a grade.
- It is not acceptable to provide your work to other students in a manner that might facilitate their submission of your work under their name.
- It is not acceptable for any two or more students to submit assignments with substantial identical content.
- It is not acceptable for any student to submit assignments containing unattributed quotations or paraphrases from another source (see citation policy above).

Any violation of the Code of Academic Integrity will lead to either a grade of zero on the relevant assignment, a reduction in course grade, or a failing grade in the course. According to University Policy, further disciplinary action may be pursued for anyone with multiple code violations. The Code of Academic Integrity can be found at: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity>.

Students with disabilities: If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodation to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the Disability Resource Center (phone: 520.621.3268; web: <http://drc.arizona.edu/>) and request that they send me official notification of your accommodation needs as soon as possible. Please plan to email me personally to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements may impact your ability to fully participate. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodation.

Adding after the first day of class: Provided you register within the appropriate time-frame and/or have our approval, you are welcome to join the course late. However, please be aware that you may have missed assignments and deadlines, and that I am NOT obligated to provide you with make-up opportunities or extensions for the deadlines you have missed. While adding the class after the first day will not prevent you from earning an excellent grade, it is not valid to assume that you can add late without incurring possible costs, regardless of the reason for your late admission to the course. You are responsible for learning about the material you missed, and you are responsible for working through the remaining items in the course calendar in order to earn the grade you hope to achieve this semester.

Cell phone use in class is prohibited, except as required for reasonable accommodation by the Disability Resources Center or by direction by the instructor.

Course documents (aside from the grading policy) may change, with reasonable advance notice from the instructor.