

Overview

Introduction to Language is a baccalaureate-level class which transferrable to the CSU system. It is appropriate for students interested in learning about the development of human language both throughout time and within individuals. It is particularly appropriate for language, liberal studies, or child development majors. Only eligibility for 1A is required, but in general, students who have completed 1A have an advantage because of the amount of writing required.

Linguistics 10 examines that nature of human language, its historical development, its structural elements, and the processes and stages of language acquisition. Biological, historical, and social perspectives affecting language usage are investigated. Language knowledge and usage are described in systematic linguistic terms.

SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

1. Analyze language usage universals, theories on the origin of language, and linguistic knowledge vs. performance.
2. Use basic linguistic symbols, terminology, and rules to describe the language systems of phonology, morphology, semantics, and syntax.
3. Apply basic linguistic methods to gather, organize, and formalize description of language samples.
4. Identify processes used in phonology, morphology, and syntax to account for language variation.
5. Detect ambiguities in lexical and syntactic elements and use several methods to disambiguate them.
6. Describe language acquisition stages and develop appropriate language development activities for each stage.

In addition, you will be encouraged to apply what you've read about and learned in class to think critically about various debates about language use and policy that you encounter around you in your communities and in the media.

CLASS FORMAT AND REQUIREMENTS

The class will be offered simultaneously to students at Reedley College and at the Oakhurst Center. Generally, the instructor will address the group in Reedley live and the students in Oakhurst will participate via distance education technology. Both sites will have technicians on-hand to make sure that the equipment works and that things run smoothly. Should we lose audio or video contact, OAKHURST STUDENTS SHOULD CALL THE INSTRUCTOR IMMEDIATELY AT _____.

The class format will include lecture, discussion, group and individual activities, and video

Linguistics 10 Reyes

Course Syllabus, Fall 1998 Text: *The Study of Language, Second Edition*, by George Yule.

| <u>Week</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Prereading</u> | <u>Other</u> |
|-------------|-------------|---|--|---|
| 1 | Aug. 18 | Course Introduction; What is Linguistics? Origins of Language | | Begin Clipping File |
| 2 | Aug. 25 | Origins of Language; Writing Systems | Chs. 1 and 2 | Begin Class Journal |
| 3 | Sept. 1 | Properties of Language; Language Universals; Animals & Human Language | Chs. 3 and 4; Hand- out on Language Universals | |
| 4 | Sept. 8 | The Sounds of Language | Ch. 5 | Test #1 Distributed |
| 5 | Sept. 15 | The Sounds of Language | Ch. 5 | Test #1 Due |
| 6 | Sept. 22 | The Sound Patterns of Language | Ch. 6 | |
| 7 | Sept. 29 | The Sound Patterns of Language; Language History and Change | Chs. 6 and 19 | First Journal Segment Due |
| 8 | Oct. 6 | Words and Word-formation Processes | Ch. 7 | Test #2 distributed |
| 9 | Oct. 13 | Morphology | Ch. 8 | Test #2 Due |
| 10 | Oct. 20 | Grammar/Syntax | Chs. 9 and 10 | |
| 11 | Oct. 27 | Syntax | Ch. 10 | Second Journal Seg- ment Due |
| 12 | Nov. 4 | Semantics | Ch. 11 | |
| 13 | Nov. 11 | Pragmatics; Discourse Analysis | Ch. 12 and 13 | Test #3 Distributed |
| 14 | Nov. 17 | Language and the Brain; First Language Acquisition | Chs. 15 and 16 | Test #3 Due |
| 15 | Nov. 24 | Second Language Acquisition | Chs. 17 | |
| 16 | Dec. 1 | Bilingual Programs; Ebonics; English Only; Official Language | Handouts and Clipping File Articles | Test #4 Distributed |
| 17 | Dec. 8 | Language Varieties; Language, Society, and Culture; Clipping File Reports | Chs. 20-21; Clipping File Articles | Third Journal Segment Due; Test #4 Due |
| 18 | Dec. 15 | Clipping File Reports | Clipping File Articles | Clipping File Due |

O = Instructor in Oakhurst