

Linguistics 10: Introduction to Language

Th 6pm - 8:50pm, CCI 204

Instructor: Dr. Brian Agbayani
Email: bagbayan@csufresno.edu

Description:

The study of language - including its nature, structure, use, history, and acquisition - with the goal of imparting (1) an understanding of the importance of language in human affairs, including social and cultural functions and (2) an appreciation of its complexity and diversity. G.E. Breadth C2 (CSU).

Learning outcomes:

Students completing Ling 10 will be able to explain, appreciate and analyze the nature and role of language at a fundamental level.

What you need to purchase for this class:

- Textbook (available at Bookstore)
Justice, Paul. 2004. *Relevant Linguistics* (2nd edition). CSLI Publications.
- 3 bluebooks and 10 scantron quiz forms 815-E (also available at Bookstore)

I'll distribute a class packet.

Requirements:

- Quizzes = 100 points (10 quizzes x 10 pts ea.)
- In-Class Exercises = 50 points (+ extra credit)
- 3 Exams @ 50 points each = 150 points
300 points possible

How course grades are determined:

300 through 270 = A
269 through 240 = B
239 through 200 = C
199 through 160 = D
159 and below = F

There is a 3 point margin of error in your favor.

Keep all of your graded assignments and be sure to keep track of your points throughout the course. Don't hesitate to ask to discuss any grading issues and to

check up on your points and progress throughout the semester.

Quizzes:

The quizzes consist of multiple choice questions. The quizzes are closed book & closed notes. Each quiz is administered during the first 15 minutes of the class meeting in which it is scheduled. No extra time will be given for late arrivals to quizzes. No make-ups.

In-class exercises:

The in-class exercises give you the opportunity to apply the concepts discussed in class to real language data. To get points for in-class exercises, regular attendance and participation is important, as these exercises will be unannounced. No make-ups.

Exams:

You will have 3 in-class exams. The exams are open book and open notes. *A portion of each test will be slightly different for Ling 10 and Ling 11 students.* Exams 1 and 2 will occur during the first hour of their scheduled class meetings. You will have the full two hours for Exam 3 on the final exam day. These exams will involve problem solving and essay writing. Bring a bluebook to each exam. Please note: no extra time will be given for late arrivals to exams; no make-ups without documented medical, psychological or legal grounds. No make-ups after 1 week from the exam date (Exams 1 & 2). No make-ups for the final exam (Exam 3).

Absences:

If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to get the notes from a classmate and to check on announcements made while you were absent.

Students with Disabilities:

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

Academic Integrity:

Cheating, plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If an academic dishonesty issue should arise, I will enforce the college's policy on this very serious matter. For information on the college's policy regarding academic dishonesty, refer to the Schedule of Classes ("Campus Policies"). Please be aware that penalties for academic dishonesty may include, but are not limited to, a 0 or F on an assignment or an F for the course.

Some keys to success in this course:

Organize your time well for study, and don't put readings and assignments off until the last minute. Also, always keep your study materials (class notes, exercises, readings) as organized as possible. Organization is the key to success. Also, ask questions about difficult material as they come up; don't put these off, as it is very easy to fall behind.

Some ground rules:

We are a community of adults. Please be respectful of the educational process and your colleagues in the class. Please refrain from text messaging, cell phone use, emailing and internet use during class time (if you need to take a call, please quietly step outside to do so). Also, please refrain from doing work for other classes during lecture and in-class activities. I want you to get the full benefit of your educational experience in the class.

Disclaimer:

The syllabus and schedule are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.



Language is a fascinating topic of inquiry, as it pertains to all of us in our daily lives. I hope you find this course informative, interesting, and challenging. I encourage you at all times to ask questions and actively participate in the class discussions. Feel free to contact me by email if you have questions.

Schedule

[Bring your textbook and packet to every class meeting. Bring a scantron form to each quiz and a bluebook to each exam; exact page numbers from each chapter reading will be announced at the beginning of each class]

week	topic	Reading	quiz/exam
1/13	Introduction	Text: Ch 1	
1/20	Brain and Language	Packet: "How can I communicate with a relative who's had a stroke?"	quiz 1
1/27	Consonants	Text: Ch 2	quiz 2
2/3	Vowels	Text: Ch 2	quiz 3
2/10	Phonetic Transcription	Text: Ch 2	quiz 4
2/17	Syllables	Packet: "Why do some people have an accent?"	Exam 1
2/24	Syllables	Text: Ch 3	

3/4	Word Formation	Text: Ch 4	quiz 5
3/10	Word Formation	Packet: "Why can't computers use English?"	quiz 6
3/17	Language Typology; review		quiz 7
3/24	When morphology & phonology collide	Text: Ch 5	Exam 2
3/31	Syntactic Categories	Text: Ch 6	
4/7	Phrase Structure	-class notes-	quiz 8
4/14	Sentences	-class notes	quiz 9
4/28	Acquisition	Packet: "Language Acquisition"	
5/5	Acquisition	Packet: "Bilingualism"	quiz 10
5/12	Acquisition; review		
5/19	Exam 3 (final) 6pm - 8pm		

*No class on: 4/21 (spring break)