

Reedley College

**INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE
LING 11, Spring 2011**

Th 6pm - 8:50pm, CCI 204

Instructor: Dr. Brian Agbayani
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Course Description:

An introduction to: the nature, structure, acquisition and biology of human language; the nature of linguistic diversity; the relationship between linguistic structure, language use and development. Most of the language data considered will be drawn from languages commonly spoken in California's Central Valley. This course is required for Liberal Studies majors and students in the Multiple Subject Credential Blended Program (CSU Fresno).

This course meets the content specifications in Reading, Language and Literature Domain 1: Language and Linguistics, Sections 1.1 (Language Structure and Linguistics) and 1.2 (Language Development and Acquisition) as part of the blended program in undergraduate teacher preparation which prepares Multiple Subject candidates by connecting subject matter and pedagogical studies in a manner that emphasizes quality, depth, rigor and scope. This course adds to the candidates' knowledge of major themes, concepts, principles, and ways of knowing within discipline-based studies and interdisciplinary studies.

Prerequisites: English 1A

Required Texts and Instructional Materials:

- 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.

Primary Learning Outcomes:

The learning outcomes are aligned with the content specifications in the subject area assigned (Reading, Language and Literature (RLL) 1.1 and 1.2). Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to identify and demonstrate an understanding of:

RLL 1.1 Language Structure and Linguistics

1. The fundamental components of human language (phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics).
2. Differences and universality among languages.
3. Phonemic awareness (rhyming, segmenting, blending).
4. Similarities and differences among groups of phonemes (consonants and vowels—place and manner of articulation).
5. Phonemic awareness vs phonics
6. Sound-symbol and symbol-sound relationships (the Alphabetic Principle)
7. Parts of speech, their functions and morphology.
8. The use of syntactic components (phrases and clauses, verbals) to understand and develop a variety of sentence types (simple, compound, and complex sentences).

RLL 1.2 Language Development and Acquisition

1. Development of a first language and the acquisition of subsequent ones
2. The principal observable milestones in each domain.
3. Language acquisition theories.
4. The range of issues related to the interaction of a first language and other languages.
5. Special features that identify exceptional development separate from inter-language effects.

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.

Assignments:

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).

Outcomes assessed (see Schedule below for quiz/exam dates)

- Quiz 1 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.1, 1.2.3
- Quiz 2 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.4
- Quiz 3 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.5
- Quiz 4 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.6
- Quiz 5 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.3
- Quiz 6 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.7, 1.1.2

Quiz 7 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.7

Quiz 8 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.8

Quiz 9 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.2.1, 1.2.2

Quiz 10 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.2.4, 1.2.5

Exam 1 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.1, 1.2.3, 1.1.4, 1.1.5, 1.1.6

Exam 2 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.7

Exam 3 - outcomes assessed: RLL 1.1.7, 1.1.8, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.4, 1.2.5

Classroom Policies:

Class participation:

To get points for in-class exercises, regular attendance and participation is important, as these exercises will be unannounced. This will count as "participation credit." No make-ups for in-class exercises.

Readings:

Students are responsible for completing assigned readings in advance of each class meeting and to actively participate in discussions, activities, and instructional presentations.

Absences:

If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to get the notes from a classmate, to check on announcements made while you were absent and to arrange for a make-up exam if necessary.

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.

Communicating with the instructor:

I encourage you to ask questions in class and contact me by email to discuss the course material.

University Policies:

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.

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)			