



You will be able to use the analytical skills that you have honed in LING 220 in more specialized linguistics courses and in diverse courses from other fields. What more can I say? It's a great course!

## COURSE GRADING

**Final exam:** 45% of your course grade. This is scheduled by the Registrar's Office for Saturday 18 December 2010 from 0830 - 1130. Room TBA.

Don't even think about asking to write the final on a different day or at a different time. If you have work or vacation plans in December it's your responsibility to ensure that they don't conflict with the final.

**Midterm exam:** 20% of your course grade. I have scheduled this for Tuesday 26 October in the Images Theatre. After a short break, a lecture will follow.

There is no make-up exam for a missed midterm. A missed exam (either midterm OR final) is awarded 0% unless (1) you're ill or injured, (2) you've told me about this before test time, and (3) you subsequently provide me with a medical certificate excusing your absence.

The **only** form that I will accept from your doctor or health care provider is available from this site: <http://students.sfu.ca/forms/GenlHCPform.pdf>.

I will discuss exam formats with you before the midterm and the final.

**Assignments:** These total 30% of your final grade. There are two of these major homework assignments, each worth 15%. These are to be submitted individually, but I encourage you to work together on them. More details later. For now, please note the following schedule:

	<u>distributed on</u>	<u>due date</u>	<u>returned to you on</u>
<u>assignment #1</u>	28 September	5 October	15 October
<u>assignment #2</u>	9 November	16 November	26 November

**Tutorial attendance:** Everyone starts with 5% course credit for this. For each tutorial that you are absent without a documented medical reason **or** do not have the homework completed, you lose 1.0%. The same deduction applies if you are late. "Late" means that your TA has already finished taking attendance. So if you blow off 5 tutorials, you've lost 5% of your course grade. That hurts!

Late arrival at a tutorial interrupts both the TA and your colleagues. This makes it hard to get the most out of those 50 precious minutes each week. Bottom line: be on time and be prepared.

LING 220 will be graded on a percentage basis as follows:

A+	96 – 100	B+	81 – 85	C+	66 – 70	D	50 – 55
A	91 – 95	B	76 – 80	C	61 – 65	F	less than 50
A-	86 – 90	B-	71 – 75	C-	56 – 60		

I do not curve the grades. What you see is what you get.

## CLASS FORMAT

### **Lectures** (Room EDB 7618)

There is a single 2-hour lecture on Tuesdays from 0830 – 1020. Lectures start precisely on time. The first part of each class is reserved for your questions and review of earlier material. You'll benefit most from the lectures if you have read the material in advance. It's a good idea to bring the textbook with you to the lecture as well because I'll often refer to it.

Lectures will be audio recorded and made available from [www.sfu.ca/lectures](http://www.sfu.ca/lectures). Don't rely on these recordings as a substitute for attending class — sometimes the process fails. Moreover, you lose the visuals and the interactivity that only your physical presence can provide. And I'll make sure that these elements contribute to the opportunity to get a good grade in the course.

Slides that accompany each week's lecture will be available through the LING 220 WebCT site <[webct.sfu.ca](http://webct.sfu.ca)>. Please print them out and bring them to class.

## TUTORIALS

Stay in the tutorial that you signed up for during registration (unless you switch legitimately through SIS [Student Information System]). Tutorial-hopping creates problems tracking attendance. I don't like problems. We have fine TAs in LING 220 so there is no valid reason to try and cherry pick one tutorial group over another once you're settled.

The tutorials are an opportunity for you to work through linguistics problems, ask questions, and get some of the support and guidance that's sometimes hard to get in the lectures. Do come. In the past, missing tutorials has regularly led to dismal test and assignment results.

Make sure that you complete the assigned tutorial problems **before** coming to class.

## **STUDY GROUPS**

If you get together with one or two of your classmates on a regular basis to go over the course material, you will probably find that you are able to master the content more quickly. Many LING 220 students have told me that working together has boosted their confidence and made them better prepared. You know that old saying: If you can't explain something well to someone else, then you haven't got a good grasp of it yourself. You may *think* that you do, but in fact you don't. That's not something you want to become aware of on test day.

## **E-MAIL POLICY**

I respond to all e-mails within 24 hours of receiving them. If you haven't received a reply to your message within that time frame, send it again; it may have got lost in the ether.

Having said all that, e-mail is notoriously ineffective and inefficient for dealing with questions that require lengthy answers (i.e., longer than a couple of sentences). Bring up questions in office hours or during lectures; it's much easier for me to give you a complete and comprehensible answer.

Put "LING 220" in the subject line and sign your message with your full name and student number. I do not answer anonymous (unsigned) e-mails nor will I respond to rude or aggressive mail. Edit your messages for tone and clarity.

If an e-mail raises a neat issue that I think would be interesting to a wider audience, I'll post it (anonymously) on the course website.

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

I and my colleagues in the Linguistics Department take a very hard line on all forms of academic dishonesty. Familiarize yourself with what academic dishonesty is and the consequences of practising it at the following websites:

[www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/index.htm](http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/index.htm)

<http://www.sfu.ca/policies/Students/index.html>

## **GENERAL STUFF**

Students requiring accommodations as the result of a disability must contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities (778.782.3112 or [csdo@sfu.ca](mailto:csdo@sfu.ca) or go to their office in the Maggie Benston Centre, Room 1250).

Student requests for accommodation of religious practices must be made in writing by the end of the first week of classes or no later than one week after a student adds the course.

Familiarize yourself with the Linguistics Department's "Standards on Class Management and Student Responsibilities" at [www.sfu.ca/linguistics/undergraduate/standards.html](http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/undergraduate/standards.html).

One final point: in the event of a difference between what Wikipedia says and what I say, I'm always right. Only with respect to LING 220 material of course!

### **CLASS SCHEDULE** [subject to minor revisions]

Page references are to the course text. We'll focus on certain parts of each week's readings more than others. I'll bring in additional problems with which to practice. Sometimes we'll do these together, others will be for solving on your own.

**Week 1 (7, 10 September)** Note that there **will** be tutorials this week.

ONE, "Language: a preview", pp. 1-11

FOUR, "Morphology: the analysis of word structure", pp. 107-122

Tutorial problems: Question 3, page 11; Questions 1 & 2, page 147

### **WEEK 2 (14, 17 SEPTEMBER)**

FOUR, "Morphology: the analysis of word structure", pp. 122-145

Tutorial problems: Questions 3, 4, 5 (part 'i' only), and 9, pp. 147-149

### **WEEK 3 (21, 24 SEPTEMBER)**

Finish up morphology, then TWO, "Phonetics: the sounds of languages", pp. 13-35

Tutorial problems: Questions 2, 3, 7, 8, and 10, pp. 52-54. In Q. 10, be sure to transcribe these words as **you** pronounce them. Be prepared to demonstrate that pronunciation in tutorials.

**WEEK 4 (28 SEPTEMBER, 1 OCTOBER) ASSIGNMENT #1 DISTRIBUTED ON 28 SEPT.**

TWO, "Phonetics: the sounds of language", pp. 35-52

Tutorial problems: Questions 4, 5, and 6 on p. 53 & question 15 on pp. 54-55

**WEEK 5 (5, 8 OCTOBER)**

THREE, "Phonology: the functioning and patterning of sounds", pp. 56-70; 97-98

Tutorial problems: Questions 1, 2, and 3 on pp. 99-100

**WEEK 6 (12, 15 OCTOBER)**

THREE, "Phonology: the functioning and patterning of sounds", pp. 70-90

Tutorial problems: Questions 6, 7, 8, and 9 on pp. 101-102

**WEEK 7 (19, 22 OCTOBER)**

THREE, "Phonology: the functioning and patterning of sounds", pp. 90-95

FOUR, "Morphology: the analysis of word structure", pp. 139-143 (Section 7: "Morphophonemics")

Tutorial problems: Question 12 on p. 104, 20 on p. 152, and 5 on p. 101

**WEEK 8 (26, 29 OCTOBER)-MIDTERM EXAM DURING 1<sup>ST</sup> HOUR OF LECTURE (26 OCT.)**

FIVE, "Syntax: the analysis of sentence structure", pp. 153-164; 201-203

Tutorial problems: Questions 2, 3, 4 on pp. 204-205. These are mandatory. Then start problem 5 on p. 205 and get as far as you can.

### **WEEK 9 (2, 5 NOVEMBER)**

FIVE, "Syntax: the analysis of sentence structure", pp. 164-171

Tutorial problems: Questions 6, 7, 8, and 9 on pp. 205-206

### **WEEK 10 (9, 12 NOVEMBER) ASSIGNMENT #2 DISTRIBUTED ON 9 NOVEMBER**

FIVE, "Syntax: the analysis of sentence structure", pp. 171-182; 203-204

Tutorial problems: Questions 10 and 11, p. 206 and Questions 12 and 13, p. 207. Consider problem 14 on p. 207, too. We'll start it in tutorial.

### **WEEK 11 (16, 19 NOVEMBER)**

FIVE, "Syntax: the analysis of sentence structure", pp. 182-185; 189-190; 194-199

Tutorial problems: Questions 14, 17, and 19 on pp. 207-209

### **WEEK 12 (23, 26 NOVEMBER)**

SIX, "Semantics: the analysis of meaning", pp. 226-234

Tutorial problems: Questions 11 and 12, p. 244; Question 15, p. 207 (X-bar review)

### **WEEK 13 (30 NOVEMBER, 3 DECEMBER) LAST WEEK OF CLASSES**

This week we will work on review problems in both the lecture and the tutorials. Your TAs and I will work flat out to prepare you for the final exam.

## HOW TO SUCCEED IN LING 220

1. Do the readings before the lecture and then again after the lecture. This is not material that you can read only once and expect to have it mastered. It's an engaging course so you won't find it an unpleasant chore to spend time on it.
2. Come to all of the tutorials with that week's assignments finished. The only way to learn linguistics is by **doing** linguistics. The problem sets always look easy when you see the answers, but that's misleading. The process of getting to those answers is what you want to understand and get comfortable with. And this is very doable!
3. Don't let small problems become big ones. If something isn't clear: tell us! Both I and your tutorial leaders are here to help – that's what we're paid for and that's what we like to do. So please put us to work.

You can come to see me or **either** of the TAs. You are not restricted at all in this regard.

4. Don't fall behind. Sure, in some courses you can put stuff off and then catch up with a big push at the end of the semester. But that won't work in LING 220.
5. Get used to a quick pace in both lectures and tutorials. It's true that learning should not be a matter of velocity, but nevertheless, this course places a premium on quick thinking and flexibility.

I'll talk more about these matters at the start of the course.

## TEACHING ASSISTANTS' OFFICE HOURS

These will be announced in the first week of classes.