

LINGUISTICS 220 - INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS

Course Syllabus

Department of Linguistics - Simon Fraser University – Fall Semester 2012

INSTRUCTOR: **DR. MAITE TABOADA**

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Office: RCB 8206

Office hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 1-2 pm (or by appointment)

Class: Tuesdays 2:30-4:20 EDB 7618

Tutorials: Check class list for your tutorial time and place

Course information: This syllabus and all other course information available on WebCT
(<https://webct.sfu.ca/webct/logon/2307869437151>)

TA name	E-mail address	Office hours	Office location
Debopam Das	ddas@sfu.ca	W 11 – 12; R 12 – 1	RCB 8314
Meghan Jeffrey	mij2@sfu.ca	R 3:30 – 4:30; F 9:45 – 10:45	RCB 9205
Mehran Norafkan	mnorafka@sfu.ca	T 12 – 1 ; W 2:30 – 3:30	RCB 8314

TUTORIALS

Catalogue number	Section number	Day	Time	Place	Instructor
4634	D101	W	09:30 - 10:20	RCB 5125	Maite Taboada
4636	D102	W	12:30 - 13:20	AQ 5050	Debopam Das
4644	D103	W	12:30 - 13:20	RCB 6122	Mehran Norafkan
4638	D104	W	13:30 - 14:20	RCB 7102	Mehran Norafkan
13969	D105	R	10:30 - 11:20	WMC 3513	Debopam Das
4646	D106	R	13:30 - 14:20	WMC 3511	Mehran Norafkan
4640	D107	R	09:30 - 10:20	AQ 5051	Debopam Das
4648	D108	R	09:30 - 10:20	AQ 5050	Meghan Jeffrey
4674	D109	R	10:30 - 11:20	AQ 5051	Meghan Jeffrey
4658	D110	R	14:30 - 15:20	AQ 5050	Meghan Jeffrey

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Linguistics 220 introduces the complexities of human language by focusing on the core areas of linguistics: *phonetics* (production, transmission, and perception of speech), *phonology* (the patterning of speech sounds in language), *morphology* (word structure and formation), *syntax* (sentence structure and formation), and *semantics* (analysis of meaning in language).

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS

- This syllabus is required reading.
- *Contemporary Linguistic Analysis: An Introduction* (CLA). Custom edition for Simon Fraser University. Boston: Pearson Publishing Company. ISBN: 0-536-18237-X
- iClicker

The textbook and iClicker are available for purchase at the SFU Bookstore (Burnaby campus only for the textbook).

COURSE GOALS

By the end of LING 220 you will have a good basic understanding of the central concepts that inform modern linguistics. You'll also know why linguistics matters and what this discipline has to contribute to contemporary life.

You will develop analytical and problem-solving skills that will provide the foundations for more specialized linguistics courses, and courses in other disciplines as well.

COMPONENTS OF THE COURSE

The course consists of lectures and tutorials. You are supposed to read the corresponding material *before* coming to class, and then again after class. Material to be covered follows the schedule below and will also be announced in class. Tutorials are reserved for homework explanation and presentation of assignments. Students are expected to attend all lectures and tutorials and are encouraged to participate in discussion.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

1. Students are expected to **attend all classes and to arrive on time** so that classes may begin promptly. Announcements will be made at the beginning and end of classes regarding the assigned readings and the expectations for exams.
2. Students are expected to **have read all assigned readings before class**. Because many students will be learning about a new field of study, some of the materials and concepts may seem fairly complex. You should probably read assigned readings and go over the lecture notes multiple times.
3. It is very important for students to **participate in class discussions** during homework explanations. Therefore, everyone must come to class prepared. Preparation includes carefully reading of the assignments, noting any questions that you have, and thinking of how the reading relates to your own personal experiences.
4. Students will be responsible for **all materials** covered in the assigned readings, lectures and tutorials. Exams will require students to refer to readings, lecture notes, and their own notes.
5. The students are expected to answer exam and homework questions in **standard academic English** appropriate for a university course at the 200 level. Punctuation, spelling and clarity of expression will be considered in the evaluation of your responses.

6. Assignments are **due at the beginning of tutorials**. Late assignments will not be accepted.
7. If you have to **miss an in-class exam because of illness**, you are required to contact me *prior* to the exam. You may notify me by e-mail or leave a voice mail message in the office. When you return to class, I will need a note from your medical doctor specifying the date of your absence and the reason. There is a good chance that I will call the doctor to confirm the note.
Following departmental policy, **make-up exams for midterms will not be given under any circumstances**. If you have a doctor's note for the date of the exam, the weight of that exam will be added to the final exam.
Unexcused absences from exams will result in a grade of zero for that exam.
Under no circumstances will students be allowed to write the final exam early or late. If you have travel plans or career plans in December, you are responsible for ensuring that they do not conflict with the final examination schedule.
8. Students will be **respectful** of other students and the instructor. In particular, students will not talk while the instructor or another student is talking.
9. Students should familiarize themselves with the **Department's Standards** on Class Management and Student Responsibilities at:
<http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/undergraduate/student-resources/department-standards.html>
10. **Cell phones**: please make sure that your cell phone (or any other noisy device, including alarms) is turned off during class.
11. **Academic dishonesty** in all forms violates the basic principles of integrity and thus impedes learning. More specifically, academic dishonesty is a form of misconduct that is subject to disciplinary action and includes the following: cheating, fabrication, fraud, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism. For more information on academic honesty and student conduct, please visit the following websites:
<http://students.sfu.ca/calendar/student-info/academic-honesty.html>
<http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/teaching.html>
Please **complete** the library's plagiarism tutorials:
<http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/tutorials/plagiarism-tutorial>
A grade of "FD" may be assigned as a penalty for academic dishonesty.
12. Please note that students requiring accommodations as a result of a **disability** must contact the Center for Students with Disabilities (778-782-3112 or csdo@sfu.ca).
13. All student requests for accommodation for **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 a course.

COURSE GRADE

The course grade is based on credit earned for assignments, tutorial presentations and attendance, plus a midterm exam and a final exam, according to the weights below.

COURSE COMPONENT	DATE	WEIGHT
Assignments, presentations and attendance	Throughout the semester	20%
Midterm	October 16, in class (1 hour)	35%
Final Exam	December 14, 12-3 pm, place TBA	45%

Percentage scores on assignments and exams will be based on objective criteria. Final letter course grades will be computed from percentage scores on assignments and exams. The following table provides a rough estimate of grade breakdowns for the final grade. Due attention will be given to the verbal descriptions listed below. There is no university-wide

standard scale. An instructor adopts a grade scale appropriate to the level and content of the course.

97-100%	A+	Extraordinary performance	73-76%	C+	Satisfactory performance
93-96%	A	Excellent performance	69-72%	C	
89-92%	A-		85-88%	B+	Marginal performance
81-84%	B	Good performance	57-64%	D	
77-80%	B-		< 56%	F	Unsatisfactory performance (fail)

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%. The same deduction applies if you are late. "Late" means that your TA has already finished taking attendance. Please stay in the tutorial that you signed up for during registration. Otherwise, we cannot keep track of your attendance.

There will be tutorials the first week of classes.

Students are expected to participate during the lectures, and especially during the tutorials, by asking questions, answering questions, and collaborating on homework.

ASSIGNMENTS

The purpose of assignments is to give students the opportunity to turn the information they receive in lectures and assigned readings into active knowledge. The assignments also give the instructor the opportunity to assess student progress, and focus on problem areas.

Students may collaborate on assignments, but must turn in their own solutions.

Assignments are assigned each week, and follow the schedule below. These assignments will not be graded based on correct answers; rather full credit will be given for turning in *complete* assignments on time, at the beginning of the tutorial on the day they are due. Late assignments will not be accepted. Each assignment is worth 2 points. Complete assignments received 2 points. Incomplete assignments, 1 point. Missing or very poorly done assignments receive 0 points.

Every tutorial assignment you turn in must have the following first page header:

YOUR NAME/ STUDENT NUMBER	SECTION DAY/TIME	SECTION NUMBER
E.g., Pat Student/123456789	Thurs/1:30	D107

PRESENTATIONS

Students will have to present their solution to a particular question on the homework assignment for that week. The date and question to be presented will be assigned by the tutorial instructor. Presentations become part of the assignment marks for each student, and are graded on a 5-point scale, with a minimum of 2 points (but 0 if the student is absent without an excuse). The mark is based on the student's ability to articulate their position and communicate clearly to fellow students. Students are encouraged to meet with their tutorial instructor before their presentation in order to go over the answers.

IClickERS

We will be using iClickers in class. If you don't own one, you will have to purchase it from the SFU bookstore. Please bring it to class every day. At the beginning of the semester, register it with this course at www.iclicker.com. Please enter your first and last name and your SFU student ID. Click that we will be using a classroom management system (WebCT).

I will use the clickers in class to check on comprehension and stimulate discussion. There is no grade attached to these in-class questions, but I will use them to check attendance.

GRADE APPEALS

If a student wishes to contest the marking of an exam or assignment, the instructor can agree to remark his/her entire exam at the instructor's convenience and not in front of the student. A grade reconsideration may raise the grade, lower the grade, or leave the grade unchanged, as stated in Policy T20.01, clause 2.4.4.

The only reason a grade change will be made is if there is an arithmetic error or if it has been determined that the exam deserves a lower grade or a higher grade after it has been remarked.

The following are NOT reasons for reconsideration of a grade:

- The student is on probation
- The student wants to get into Business or any other program
- The student worked hard and thinks this should be a factor
- The student does not like the grade scale
- The student's score is x% below the next grade and would like the instructor to ignore the difference

STUDENT-INSTRUCTOR COMMUNICATION

Students are encouraged to communicate with the instructor and the TAs about their progress in the course, and other course-related issues. Students are welcome to visit the instructor and the TAs during their assigned office hours, set up an appointment for a time that is convenient both to them and the instructor, or contact the instructor by phone. The instructor and the TAs **will not** correspond with students through e-mail.

If you are sick and need to miss an exam, please do send me an e-mail message, but do not expect a reply.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

In general, students who do well in this course follow these principles:

- Attend lectures and tutorials regularly
- Do all assignments and exercises
- Ask questions in class, in tutorial or during office hours
- Participate actively in tutorial discussions
- Keep up with new material
- Maintain a positive attitude
- You can also think of forming study groups, to work on assignments together, or to discuss the readings. Assignments, however, should be submitted individually.

TOPICS, READING OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Tentative and subject to change.

Week	Date	Topic	Read (before class)	Assign-ment #	Assignment exercises (end of respective chapter)
1	Sept 4	Introduction	Chapter 1		
2	Sept 11	Morphology	Chapter 4, 1-3	1	Ch. 1 - 3, 5
3	Sept 18	Morphology	Chapter 4, 4-7	2	Ch. 4 - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
4	Sept 25	Syntax	Chapter 5, 1-2	3	Ch. 4 - 7, 8, 15, 18
5	Oct 2	Syntax	Chapter 5, 3-6	4	Ch. 5 - 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
6	Oct 9	Review for midterm		5	Ch. 5 - 9, 12, 13, 19
7	Oct 16	Midterm Semantics	Chapter 6, 1-4		
8	Oct 23	Phonetics	Chapter 2, 1-6	6	Ch. 6 - 1, 2, 3, 7, 14, 17
9	Oct 30	Phonetics	Chapter 2, 7-9	7	Ch. 2 - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
10	Nov 6	Phonology	Chapter 3, 1-3	8	Ch. 2 - 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
11	Nov 13	Phonology	Chapter 3, 4-6	9	Ch. 3 - 1, 2, 3, 4
12	Nov 20	Language classification	Chapter 8, 1-3	10	Ch. 3 - 6, 7, 9, 10, 12
13	Nov 27	Review		11	Ch. 8 - 1, 2, 7, 8, 9
	Dec. 14	Final exam	12 pm. Place TBA		