

Ling 100.003: Introduction to Language and Linguistics

2013 Winter Term 2

This course is an introduction to the study of language as a universal and uniquely human cognitive system. What universals do all languages share and how do languages differ? We will investigate sound systems, word-building, structural principles, language acquisition, dialect variation, and more.

Please read the policies outlined in this syllabus carefully. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED WITHIN. Remaining enrolled in the class is an agreement to abide by the policies of the course. "I didn't know" will not be accepted as an excuse for failure to comply with course policies.

Course Information

COURSE TIME	MW 11am-12pm (plus tutorial time)
COURSE LOCATION	Buchanan A101
TUTORIAL	Check your schedule for time and location
WEBSITE	Vista: http://www.vista.ubc.ca/
TEXTBOOK (REQUIRED)	The Study of Language, 4th ed. (by George Yule, Cambridge, 2010)
TECHNOLOGY (REQUIRED)	Clicker (please bring this to each lecture, set to AD)

Instructor/Teaching Assistant Information

INSTRUCTOR	Henry Davis
OFFICE HOURS:	M 10.00-11.00 am, M 12.00-1.00pm, W 10.00-11.00 am. 2351 Brock Hall Annex
E-MAIL:	Henry.Davis@ubc.ca

TAs and tutorials:

Andrei Anghelescu <aanghele@alumni.ubc.ca>
T34 – Henry Angus 291, Friday 10:00-11:00
T38 – Geography 214, Friday 11:00-12:00

Rob Fuhrman <robert.fuhrman@alumni.ubc.ca>
T32 – Food, Nutrition & Health 40, Friday 10:00 - 11:00
T37 – Irving K. Barber Learning Centre 155, Tuesday 10:00 - 11:00

Kevin McMullin <kevinmcm@alumni.ubc.ca>
T31 - Henry Angus 435, Friday 10:00 - 11:00
T36 – Geography 201, Friday 11:00 - 12:00

Adriana Osa Gómez del Campo <a.osag@alumni.ubc.ca>
T33 – Henry Angus 039, Friday 10:00 - 11:00
T35 – Henry Angus 037, Friday 11:00 - 12:00

TA OFFICE HOUR: Tuesday 12.00 - 1.00 pm, Thursday 11.00am – 12pm
TA OFFICE: 2354 Brock Hall Annex

Requirements and Grading

Requirement	Percent of Grade
Connect quizzes (10 total; best 7 counted, at 3% each)	21%
Homework assignments (4 total, at 5% each)	20%
Mid-term examination	20%
Final presentation	20%
Attendance in class/participation in tutorial	15%
Judging presentations	4%

Note: There is NO final exam! However, the final presentation will take place at the same time as the exam – so do not book a flight home before then!

We do NOT negotiate marks/grades. Marking errors (miscalculations only) will be cheerfully corrected. Otherwise, the mark you receive is the mark you keep. If you have a question about how your mark was calculated, you should contact your TA.

Marking errors: Statute of limitations. Miscalculations should be brought to my attention within one week (7 calendar days) of an assignment being returned. Any papers that are not returned for correction within one week will stand as marked.

Scaling. Faculties, departments, and schools reserve the right to scale grades in order to maintain equity among sections and conformity to university, faculty, department, or school norms. Students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.

LECTURES, TUTORIALS, AND NOTES

Please show up for class on time, be prepared, and stay till the end. Lecture notes and tutorial worksheets will be posted on Connect before each class when they are available; there is no guarantee that electronic notes will be posted for every lecture.

Each student must enroll in a tutorial section. **Tutorials begin in the first week**, and meet each week, unless otherwise noted. **Please print out the tutorial handout and bring it to class.**

ON-LINE QUIZZES

Quizzes will be scheduled on the Sunday before each week's class. Typically, they will be on the readings for that week's classes (textbook plus any supplementary reading). You will have 24 hours to take the quiz (midnight to midnight); you'll get 40 minutes to do each quiz, and have two tries (I'll take the higher score).

Quizzes count 3 points each. Your lowest three quiz marks (out of 10 total) will be dropped.

Quizzes may NOT be rescheduled or retaken for any reason. If you forget, your laptop falls in the bathtub, or any other misfortune befalls you, these count towards your dropped quizzes. Missed quizzes result in a mark of 0 (zero), without exception.

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments will be posted to Connect and are to be submitted **in hard copy** to your TA at the **beginning of the following Wednesday lecture** (i.e., you have a week to complete them). Your TAs will be stationed at the entrances to the lecture halls on days when assignments are due. **Late assignments will NOT be considered for credit.**

Honour Code. **Every assignment must include the following statement, plus your signature: “I have abided by the UBC code of academic integrity.”** This statement indicates that you have abided by the code on all issues relating to that assignment.

You may work together to arrive at answers for assignments, but each student should write up their own responses, and you should indicate which other students you worked with. NB: *Assignments that include identical answers will be treated as violations of the Honour Code.*

If you have a problem downloading an assignment or reading, get in contact with your TA or instructor immediately. “I couldn’t download it” will not be accepted as an excuse for late assignments. You should download assignments and readings ASAP, to avoid technological problems. **Students should retain a copy of all submitted assignments.**

MIDTERM EXAM

The midterm exam may NOT be made up or rescheduled, barring emergencies or advance-notice agreement (at my discretion). MISSED EXAMS MAY BE MADE UP ONLY IN CASES OF FAMILY OR MEDICAL EMERGENCY (WITH A SUITABLE NOTE FROM A DOCTOR). If you know in advance that you’ll have to miss the midterm, please let both your TA and the instructor know as early as possible, and *no later than the day before the exam.*

PARTICIPATION

Attendance at lectures and tutorials is required. Attendance at lectures will be monitored via clicker participation: forget your clicker, and you’re not there! TAs will take attendance at tutorials. Your participation grade will be calculated as follows: 0.25% for each lecture attended, for a total of 20 lectures = 5%, 0.5% for each tutorial attended, up to a total of 5%, plus 5% to be awarded by the TA and me for your level of participation in the tutorial and the course generally. Factors to be taken into account include asking and answering questions in tutorials, completing tutorial worksheets, participation in the Connect discussion board, etc.

FINAL PRESENTATION

For your final presentation, you will be working *in your tutorial groups* on an **installation** of your own creation on some aspect of linguistics **that will appeal to a high school (Grade 10-12) audience** and will take c.20 minutes to perform. What do I mean by an installation? Anything you like! Possibilities could include visual display, multi-media of any kind (video-clips, sound files, etc.), theatre, dance, spoken or sung words, or any combination thereof.

The basic idea is this. Had you heard of Linguistics in high school? No? Very few have. Your job is to convey some of what you've learned in class (and found out outside of it) in a way that is accessible and entertaining to a tough audience...much like many of you, in fact, a year or two back.

Your constraints are (i) time (20 minutes) (ii) technical (assume basic classroom setup, but nothing more, unless you bring it) (iii) mobility (you'll need to be able to set up and strike your set rapidly) (iv) participation: everyone must play a role (don't worry, you don't need to perform – there are many ways to participate, from research and writing to graphics to logistics).

We'll perform all eight installations during the exam time – we'll expect everyone to stay the whole time to watch, and you'll be judging every other presentation (worth 4% of your mark).

FLEXIBLE LEARNING

This course is amongst those chosen as an experiment in *flexible learning*. No idea what that is? Nor do I, really! (And I suspect, nor do the administrators who thought it up.) The basic idea is to shake the lecture format up a bit, possibly but not necessarily by putting content on line and doing more participatory activities in class. What I'm going to try and do is divide the week into two parts, with more straight lecturing on Monday and more participatory stuff on Wednesdays – and I'll be experimenting with various ways of implementing the latter.

Course Schedule: Topics, Readings, Assignments (Subject to Change!)

Note: **Any changes to the course schedule will be announced on Connect.** Readings are listed for the date on which they are due.

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	HW/quizzes
1	Jan 6	Introduction	Yule ch. 1	
	Jan 8	What makes human language special?	Hockett	Quiz 1
2	Jan 13	Animal communication	Yule ch. 2	

Part 2: Producing and Perceiving Language

	Jan 15	Producing speech	Yule ch. 3	
3	Jan 20	Hearing speech: Consonants and vowels	Yule ch. 3	Assignment 1
	Jan 22	Seeing language: Gestures and sign language	Yule ch. 15	
4	Jan 27	Writing language	Yule ch. 16	

Part 3: The Form of Language

	Jan 29	Phonology: Sounds and meaning	Yule ch. 4	
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5	Feb 3	Phonology: Syllable structure	Yule ch. 4	Assignment 2
	Feb 5	Morphology: Words and word-formation	Yule ch. 5	
6	Feb 10	Family Day: no class	Yule ch. 7	
	Feb 12	Morphology: building words	Yule ch. 6	
	Feb 17-21	<i>READING BREAK: NO CLASSES OR TUTORIALS</i>		
7	Feb 24	Syntax: Building phrases	Yule ch. 8	Assignment 3
	Feb 26	Syntax: Building sentences	Yule ch. 9	
8	Mar 3	Semantics: Deriving meaning		
	Mar 5	Pragmatics: Meaning in context	Yule ch. 10	
9	Mar 10	<i>MIDTERM EXAM (CUMULATIVE)</i>		

Part 4: Perspectives on Language

Mar 12-Mar 31: (guest lecturers TBA) Assignment 4

The Big Finale: Presentations: *at the scheduled exam time*

Other important dates:

Jan 20	<i>Last day for withdrawal without standing of "W"</i>
Feb 15	<i>Last day for withdrawal with standing of "W"</i>

Important Notes

Make use of Connect's discussion board to get your questions answered by your classmates. The discussion board is especially useful for getting quick answers to logistical questions.

You are encouraged to meet with your TA or instructor during office hours if you have questions about course material. **A different TA will hold office hours each week (at the same time/place – see above).** All TAs are qualified to help you with your concerns. You may also email us with questions, or to set up an appointment outside of normal office hours.

With any email query, **your TA should be your first point of contact.** We may not respond to email questions on short notice, for example, the day before an assignment is due. Please plan accordingly.

Honour Code

The UBC policy on academic misconduct is in effect at all times in this class, both in letter and spirit.

I will treat violations of it seriously. If you ever have questions about academic integrity or misconduct, or their application in this class, you should bring them to me.

In this course, you must include your handwritten signature on all exams and assignments, and a statement (“I have abided by the UBC code of academic integrity”), indicating that you have abided by the Honour Code. All work that you turn in is to be your original work. You may not turn in another person’s work as yours, and quoted material must be properly cited. You may not give or receive assistance to/from another person during exams or quizzes, nor receive information from any materials or means not authorized by the instructor. YOUR SIGNATURE OR STATEMENT ON YOUR WORK indicates that you have abided by the code of academic integrity on all issues relating to that assignment. *Work without your signature or statement will receive a mark of 0 (zero), without exception.*

Academic Misconduct that is subject to penalty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. **PLAGIARISM.** Plagiarism occurs where an individual submits or presents the work of another person as his or her own. Scholarship quite properly rests upon examining and referring to the thoughts and writings of others. However, when excerpts are used in paragraphs or essays, the author must be acknowledged in the text, through footnotes, in endnotes, or in other accepted forms of academic citation. Plagiarism extends from where there is no recognition given to the author for phrases, sentences, or ideas of the author incorporated in an essay to where an entire essay is copied from an author, or composed by another person, and presented as original work. Students must ensure that when they seek assistance from a tutor or anyone else that the work they submit is actually their own. Where collaborative work is permitted by the instructor, students must ensure that they comply with the instructor’s requirements for such collaboration. Students are responsible for ensuring that any work submitted does not constitute plagiarism. Students who are in any doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism should consult their instructor before handing in any assignments.

2. **CHEATING.** Cheating includes, but is not limited to: falsifying any material subject to academic evaluation; having in an examination any materials other than those permitted by the examiner; and using unauthorized means to complete an examination (e.g. receiving unauthorized assistance from a fellow student).

3. **SUBMITTING THE SAME,** or substantially the same, essay, presentation, or assignment more than once (whether the earlier submission was at this or another institution), unless prior approval has been obtained from the instructor(s) to whom the assignment is to be submitted.

NB: Using someone else’s clicker, or allowing someone else to use yours, is Academic Misconduct.

***For more information (including info about disciplinary measures):

<http://www.vpacademic.ubc.ca/integrity/policies.htm> (reproduced in part above) or

<http://instrument.unc.edu/instrument.text.html#academicdishonesty>.

Violations of the Honour Code may result in disciplinary action, including a failing grade for the course, suspension from scholarships, or expulsion from the University.

Take this seriously: Abide by this code of conduct, and remember your signature and statement on your work!

Student Accommodations

The University accommodates students (1) with disabilities who have registered with Access and Diversity, and (2) whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. **Let me know *this week* if you will require accommodation on these grounds.**

Students who will be absent for other reasons (varsity athletics, family obligations, etc.) *cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss their situation with me before the drop date.*

Other Policies

All electronic equipment (except for clickers) is prohibited in class.* This includes laptops, e-readers and iPad-type devices, cellphones, iPod/mp3 players, etc.). These must be **turned off and put away at all times** during lectures and tutorials. Violation of this policy will result in deductions to your participation grade. The reason for this policy is that previous LING 100 sections have been unable to refrain from web surfing, tweeting, using Facebook, etc. while in class, and that is distracting to students who are attempting to listen to the lecture. See <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/parenting/back-to-school/laptops-in-class-lowers-students-grades-canadian-study/article13759430/> and <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0360131512002254/> (but NOT during class!)

* Exception: if registered with Access and Diversity, students with special needs may need to record lectures or use a note-taker on a laptop. If that is you, come and see me *this week* so that you can be granted an exemption.

You are responsible for all material covered in class. Students who have missed class for any reason are responsible for finding out what information has been missed. Exams, assignments and tutorials will draw heavily on material covered in lectures.

You are responsible for information on the course Connect site and should check it regularly.

To get the best possible grade in this class, you should **attend all lectures and tutorials (on time), and come prepared.** Lectures are based on the assumption that **you have already completed the reading**, rather than rehashing it for you. You will get more out of class time (and thus eventually get a better grade) if you **do the reading when it is assigned.** Connect quizzes are designed precisely to test your reading so that we can free up some class time for **flexible learning**

I reserve the right to. . .

- expect compliance with these policies, and to grade accordingly.
- change the reading, assignment, or course schedule, as our speed requires.
- test/quiz you on information from any reading, lecture, class discussion, posted website, etc.
- replace some of the quizzes with student polls (points given for participation) or other tools.
- make announcements via Connect/email and hold you accountable for that information.
- make the ultimate decision about late assignments, make-ups, rescheduled exams, etc.
- change old policies or implement new ones as the situation requires.