

**Linguistics Courses for Fall 2017**

<i>No prerequisites</i>				
CAS LX 110**	<b>SAY WHAT? Accents, Dialects, and Society</b>	Myler	TR	12:30-1:45
CAS LX 250**	<b>Introduction to Linguistics</b>	Barnes	TR	2-3:15
<i>Prerequisite: CAS LX 250 Introduction to Linguistics</i>				
CAS LX 301** / GRS LX 601	<b>Phonetics &amp; Phonology: Introduction to Sound Systems</b>	Barnes	TR	11-12:15
CAS LX 311** / GRS LX 611	<b>Morphology: Introduction to the Structures and Shapes of Words</b>	Myler	TR	9:30-10:45
CAS LX 321** / GRS LX 621	<b>Syntax: Introduction to Sentential Structure</b>	Hagstrom	TR	12:30-1:45
CAS LX 355 / GRS LX 655	<b>Second Language Acquisition</b>	Chang	MWF	10:10-11
CAS LX 368 / GRS LX 668	<b>Structure of African Languages</b>	Mali	TR	2-3:15
CAS LX 372	<b>French Phonetics</b> (taught in French)	Neidle	TR	9:30-10:45
CAS LX 390 A1/ GRS LX 690 A1	<b>Topics in Linguistics: Natural Language Processing &amp; Computational Linguistics</b>	Hagstrom	T	3:30-6:15
<i>More advanced courses (prerequisite of a specific course beyond CAS LX 250)</i>				
CAS LX 403 / GRS LX 703	<b>Phonological Analysis</b>	Chang	MWF	12:20-1:10
CAS LX 432 / GRS LX 732	<b>Intermediate Semantics: The Grammatical Construction of Meaning</b>	TBA	MWF	3:35-4:25

\*\* Carries humanities divisional credit in CAS.

**For students without any background in linguistics: No prerequisites**

**CAS LX 110 SAY WHAT ? Accents, Dialects, and Society.** A1. Myler. TR 12:30-1:45.

When people from different regions of the US and from various parts of the English-speaking world meet for the first time, they are immediately struck by differences in the way they speak. For speakers of so-called “non-standard” dialects, this can give rise to insecurity and frustration, and dialect prejudice may lead such speakers to suppress aspects of their native variety (an experience familiar to many American college students). But is there any objective reason to consider non-standard dialects as inferior? What are the implications of dialect diversity for education, civil rights, and other aspects of public policy? How are dialects and their speakers represented in literature, film, humor, music, and other aspects of popular culture? How exactly does English vary across different places and social groups? Where do these accents and dialects come from in the first place? This course, which assumes no previous background in linguistics, investigates these questions from both a linguistic and a more broadly humanistic perspective.

**PREREQ: NONE.** Students who have already taken CAS LX 250 or any higher-level linguistics course (or are doing so concurrently) are not eligible to take CAS LX 110.

**Carries Humanities Divisional Studies credit.**

**CAS LX 250 Introduction to Linguistics.\*** A1. Barnes. TR 2-3:15.

Study of the fundamental properties that all languages share, and how languages differ with respect to structure (sound system, word formation, syntax), expression of meaning, acquisition, variation, and change; cultural and artistic uses of languages; comparison of oral, written, and signed languages.

Students should also sign up for one of the Friday discussion sections:

*S1 9:05-9:55, S2 10:10-11, S3 11:15-12:05, S4 12:20-1:10, S5 or S8 1:25-2:15,  
S6 2:30-3:20, S7 11:15-12:05.*

**PREREQ: NONE.** **Carries Humanities Divisional Studies credit.**

**\* CAS LX 250 is a prerequisite for all of the LX courses with higher numbers.**

**Core courses** - required for majors and minors - can be taken in any order

*Note that these courses will not be offered again until Fall 2018.*

**CAS LX 301/GRS LX 601 Phonetics & Phonology: Introduction to Sound Systems.**

A1. Barnes. TR 11-12:15.

Introduction to the nature and patterning of sounds in human language. Presents articulatory and acoustic phonetics, and basic phonological analysis, focusing on cross-language typology and comparison. Hands-on development of practical skills, including IPA transcription, field techniques, and digital speech analysis.

**PREREQ: CAS LX 250 or consent of instructor.** **Carries Humanities Divisional Studies credit.**

## Core courses (cont.)

### CAS LX 321/GRS LX 621 **Syntax: Introduction to Sentential Structure.**

A1. **Hagstrom.** TR 12:30-1:45.

Introduction to syntax as an object of inquiry. Students build an increasingly sophisticated model of syntactic knowledge to account for data from English and other languages, constructing and evaluating alternative hypotheses about how sentence structure works.

**PREREQ:** CAS LX 250 or consent of instructor. **Carries Humanities Divisional Studies credit.**

## Other electives

### CAS LX 311/GRS LX 611 **Morphology: Introduction to the Structures and Shapes of Words**

A1. **Myler.** TR 9:30-10:45.

Morphology, the study of the internal structure and the shapes of words across languages, straddles the boundary between syntax and phonology. This course covers the major empirical and theoretical issues in the study of morphology, emphasizing links to other components of grammar.

**PREREQ:** CAS LX 250 or consent of instructor. **Carries Humanities Divisional Studies credit.**

### CAS LX 355/GRS LX 655 **Second Language Acquisition** A1. **Chang.** MWF 10:10-11.

The goal of this course is to provide an overview of findings from the interdisciplinary field of second language acquisition (SLA), especially as they relate to differences between adult and child learners and individual variation among adult learners. The course examines data from many different language pairs, diverse theoretical perspectives on second-language attainment, and a wide range of factors influencing acquisition: language-universal, demographic, experiential, cognitive, social/affective, and environmental. The course also considers the case of third language acquisition as well as pedagogical implications.

**PREREQ:** CAS LX 250 or consent of instructor.

### CAS LX 390/GRS LX 690 **Topics in Linguistics: Natural Language Processing & Computational Linguistics**

A1. **Hagstrom.** T 3:30-6:15.

Introduction to computational techniques to explore linguistic models and test empirical claims. Serves as an introduction to programming, algorithms, and data structures, focused on modern applications to NLP. Topics include tagging and classification, parsing models, meaning representation, and information extraction.

**PREREQ:** CAS LX 250 or consent of instructor.

## Linguistic analysis of specific languages

**CAS LX 368/GRS LX 668 Structure of African Languages** A1. **Mali.** TR 2-3:15.

African language structure and status from the perspectives of theoretical and comparative linguistics (within the generative grammar framework), typology, and sociolinguistics, with focus on South African Nguni languages, especially IsiXhosa, with comparisons to its sister languages in that language group.

**PREREQ:** CAS LX 250 or consent of instructor.

**CAS LX 372 French Phonetics.** A1. **Neidle.** TR 9:30-10:45.

**(Conducted in French)** Students improve their pronunciation and aural comprehension by applying linguistic principles governing the articulation and distribution of French sounds, liaison, "mute e," and intonation. Written exercises reinforce theoretical points; oral exercises and recordings allow focus on individual difficulties. [Also offered as CAS LF 500]

**PREREQ:** CAS LF 303 and CAS LX 250 or equivalent, or permission of instructor.

Note that CAS LX 250 can be taken concurrently.

## Courses with one prerequisite beyond LX 250

**CAS LX 403/GRS LX 703 Phonological Analysis** A1. **Chang.** MWF 12:20-1:10.

Survey of phonological theory and analysis, with focus on crosslinguistic typology of phonological systems. Phonological reasoning and argumentation skills are developed. Empirical coverage includes contrast, distinctive features, rules and constraints, opacity, tone, syllabification, stress, and interactions with morphology and syntax.

**PREREQ:** CAS LX 301/ GRS LX 601 Phonetics & Phonology: Introduction to Sound Systems (or CAS LX 510) or consent of instructor.

**CAS LX 432/GRS LX 732 Intermediate Semantics: The Grammatical Construction of Meaning** A1. **TBA.** MWF 3:35-4:25.

Introduction to the semantics of natural language at an intermediate level. Topics include (but are not limited to) predication and quantification, scope and anaphora, problems of discourse analysis, various issues at the interface of semantics and pragmatics, and crosslinguistic semantics.

**PREREQ:** CAS LX 331/ GRS LX 631 Semantics & Pragmatics: Introduction to Linguistic Meaning (or CAS LX 502) or consent of instructor.

Note: These listings are subject to change. For up-to-date information, please consult <http://ling.bu.edu> and the Student Link. Linguistics faculty members will be happy to provide further information about courses.