The physical matter of language:
- How sounds function in spoken languages (phonetics and phonology)
- How language is manifested in other modalities: written language, sign language

How words are formed (morphology)

How sentences are structured (syntax)

How meaning is constructed and interpreted; "how to do things with words" (semantics, pragmatics)

What all languages have in common (universals), and how they can differ

- How languages vary (idiolects, dialects) and change (historical linguistics)
- How language is used in different social settings (sociolinguistics)
- How language is learned (acquisition)
- Multilingualism and language contact (pidgins, Creoles)
- How language is produced and perceived (neurolinguistics, psycholinguistics), and what can go wrong (disorders)
- How human language is different from animal communication systems

No prerequisites

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