

# LX250: Introduction to Linguistics

Spring 2018  
Tuesday, Thursday 11-12:15  
Room: LSE B01

## Instructor:

Jonathan Barnes  
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Office Hours: Monday 3:30-5:00, Tuesday 3:30-5:00, or by appointment

## Teaching Fellows:

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## Course Information:

Text required: *Contemporary Linguistics*. William O'Grady, John Archibald, Mark Aronoff, & Janie Rees-Miller. Boston/New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2017. ISBN: 978-1319039776. **Seventh Edition.**

Shop around, if you like, but be sure to get the right edition of this book!

## Other Resources:

- There is a wealth of information and wonderful links to linguistics resources on our program website: <http://ling.bu.edu>. Check it out!

## Course Requirements:

- Regular attendance (!!!) and class participation: 5% of grade. Missing lecture in this class will make you *deeply unhappy* come exam time...

- Regular problem sets: 40% of grade. Homework must be turned in by the *beginning* of class on the day that it is due. Please include date and assignment number at the top of each assignment. Staple together multiple pages of a single assignment. Homework must be legible. Lowest score will be dropped. Late homework, without *prior* excuse, will lose half a letter grade for each class that has passed since the due date.
  - You may, if you wish, collaborate with your fellow students on homework assignments. You must, however, state CLEARLY on each assignment the identities of your collaborators, and you must each write up your homeworks individually.
- Readings: Do these carefully. This will make your homework assignments substantially easier, and won't hurt on exams either. Lectures present information to *supplement*, not reiterate, the contents of the readings.
- Discussion sections: Every student should be registered for a section. These sections provide you with a chance to review and practice in smaller groups material presented in lecture. They are a valuable resource for you, and they are not optional.
- 2 exams: 30% of grade
- Cumulative final exam held in LSE B01, Tuesday, May 8, 12:30-2:30 PM: 25% of grade.

A Reminder:

Boston University Academic Conduct Code:

It is expected that you are familiar with the provisions of the Boston University Academic Conduct Code, available to you online at:

<http://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/academic-conduct-code/>

Cases of suspected academic misconduct will be referred to the Dean's office.

## Syllabus:

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS
1	Jan 18	What is Language? What is Linguistics? Some basics...	READ: CL, ch. 1
2	Jan 23, 25	More Basics, Phonetics	READ: CL, ch 2
3	Jan 30, Feb 1	Phonetics, Phonology	READ: CL, ch 3
4	Feb 6, 8	Phonology	READ: CL, ch. 4
5	Feb 13, 15	Morphology, Review	
6	Feb 20, 22	Note: NO CLASS February 20 ☹️ Feb 22: Exam #1	
7	Feb 27, Mar 1	Syntax	READ: CL, ch. 5
	Mar 6, 8	SPRING BREAK ☹️☹️☹️	
8	Mar 13, 15	Syntax and Semantics	READ: CL, ch. 6
9	Mar 20, 22	Semantics and Pragmatics Review	
10	Mar 27, 29	Mar 27: Exam #2 Mar 29: Language in Society	READ: CL, ch. 13
11	Apr 3, 5	Language Variation and Change	READ: CL, ch. 7, 8
12	Apr 10, 12	More Language Change	
13	Apr 17, 19	Pidgins and Creoles	READ: CL, ch. 15
14	Apr 24, 26	Language Acquisition, Endangered languages	READ: CL, ch. 9, 10
15	May 1	Conclusion and Review	

Note: This schedule is tentative and subject to change.