

LX250: Introduction to Linguistics

Fall 2017
Tuesday, Thursday 2-3:15
Room: KCB 101

Instructor:

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CAS Linguistics Program
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Office Hours: Monday 3:00-4:30, Tuesday 3:30-5:00, or by appointment

Teaching Fellows:

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Madeline Reffel
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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 KCB 101, Saturday, December 16, 3:00-5:00 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	Sep 5, 7	What is Language? What is Linguistics? Some basics...	READ: CL, ch. 1
2	Sep 12, 14	Phonetics	READ: CL, ch 2
3	Sep 19, 21	Phonology	READ: CL, ch 3
4	Sep 26, 28	Phonology and Morphology	READ: CL, ch. 4
5	Oct 3, 5	Morphology, Review	
6	Oct 12	Note: NO CLASS OCTOBER 10 ☹️ Oct 12: Exam #1	
7	Oct 17, 19	Syntax	READ: CL, ch. 5
8	Oct 24, 26	More Syntax	
9	Oct 31, Nov 2	Syntax and Semantics	READ: CL, ch. 6
10	Nov 7, 9	Nov 7: Semantics and Pragmatics Nov 9: Review	
11	Nov 14, 16	Nov 14: Exam #2 Nov 16: Language in Society	READ: CL, ch. 13
12	Nov 21	Language Variation and Change Note: NO CLASS November 23 ☹️☹️	READ: CL, ch. 7, 8
13	Nov 28, 30	More Language Change	
14	Dec 5, 7	Pidgins and Creoles; Endangered languages	READ: CL, ch. 15
15	Dec 12	Conclusion and Review	

Note: This schedule is tentative and subject to change.