

LINGUISTICS 20

INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS

(ONLINE)

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Course Description

This course is a survey of general linguistics. It provides the required background for all higher-level courses in linguistics and a thorough introduction to the field for students of other disciplines. The course focuses on the central areas of linguistics including speech production (phonetics), sound patterns (phonology), word formation (morphology), sentence structure (syntax), aspects of meaning (semantics and pragmatics), and language change (historical and comparative linguistics). We will also discuss such other areas of study as acquisition of first and second languages, language contact, and the neural and biological foundations of language. The course emphasizes practical skills of linguistic analysis and problem-solving.

Course Grade

6 Section Quizzes:	30%
8 Homework Assignments:	50%
Weekly Online Participation:	20%

Textbook

Stewart, Thomas, Jr., and Nathan Vaillette. 2007. *Language Files: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics*. 10th ed. Columbus: Ohio State University Press.

Course Outline

(dates to be filled in)

Week	Dates	Topics	Readings	Quizzes	Important Dates
1		Languages and Linguistics.	Chapter 1		
2		Phonetics.	Chapter 2		Homework 1 is due on ...
3		Phonology.	Chapter 3	Quiz 1	Homework 2 is due on ...
4		Morphology.	Chapter 4	Quiz 2	Homework 3 is due on ...
5		Syntax.	Chapter 5	Quiz 3	Homework 4 is due on ...
6		Semantics and pragmatics.	Chapters 6, 7		Homework 5 is due on ...
7		Acquisition of first and second languages.	Chapter 8	Quiz 4	Homework 6 is due on ...
8		Biological foundations of language.	Chapter 9		Homework 7 is due on ...
9		Historical and comparative linguistics.	Chapter 12	Quiz 5	Homework 8 is due on ...
10		Language contact.	Chapter 11	Quiz 6	