

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME

LING 211: Introduction to Linguistics

TRIMESTER 1 2010

1 March to 4 July 2010

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 1 March 2010 to 4 June 2010

Mid-trimester break: 5 April to 18 April 2010

Study week: 7 June to 11 June 2010

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

1. Course Coordinator:

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If you send emails to any staff about this course, please put 'LING211' in the title line.

Tutors

Tutors will introduce themselves and provide details of office hours at the first meeting of each tutorial class.

3. Class times and rooms:

Lectures: Monday, Thursday, Friday 12:00-12:50 in KKLT301

Demonstration classes: Approximately one out of three of the lecture class times will be devoted to the practical demonstrations of various kinds. Students may be required to prepare material in advance to gain full advantage from attendance at these classes.

Tutorials: One tutorial per week. Please go to <<https://signups.vuw.ac.nz>> to sign up for a tutorial. This facility will close on 5 March 2010.

Tutorial lists will be posted on the Linguistics Notice Board (see 4. below) and Blackboard at the end of the first week of the trimester. Tutorials commence in the second week (beginning 8 March). Check the lists *before* that date. Do not miss your first tutorial. You may not change tutorials without consulting the course co-ordinator.

The **tutorial programme** is an essential element of this course. Short tutorial exercises must be prepared before each tutorial. Students will find they cannot acquire techniques of linguistic analysis without attending tutorials regularly.

4. Announcements:

Noticeboards are in the corridor of VZ Level 3. Notices will also be posted on Blackboard.

5. LALS main office: VZ210, 2nd floor Von Zedlitz Building, Kelburn Parade

6. Course Administrator:

Vivien.Trott, Undergraduate administration Tel: 463 5894, Fax: 463 5604

Vivien.Trott@vuw.ac.nz

Web contact: www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz

7. Content:

Lectures will cover each of the following

- (i) Phonetics and phonology: examining the sounds of human languages.
- (ii) Morphology: examining how words are structured.
- (iii) Syntax: examining the way words combine to form sentences.
- (iv) Semantics: considering how to analyse meaning.

A schedule of lectures is attached to this course outline.

8. Objectives:

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- Explain concepts basic to modern linguistics.
- Identify characteristics shared by all human languages.
- Explain why a language is referred to as a system.
- Use descriptive linguistic terminology to discuss language structure in a precise way.
- Use descriptive linguistic terminology to discuss issues of linguistic usage in a precise and informed way.
- Distinguish linguistic elements at the levels of (a) morphology; (b) semantics; (c) syntax; (d) phonology.
- Analyse a variety of languages at one or more of these levels of analysis.

Each of the pieces of assessed work, including the test, will test several of these objectives.

9. Expected workload:

You are expected to spend 200 hours on this course over the whole trimester, which means on average around 15 hours per week. 4 of those hours are consumed with class attendance, and at least another 4 with preparation for and revision after classes, including reading to confirm your understanding of the lecture material. You also need to spend time on assignments, and on overall background reading and preparation of the final test.

10. Group work: Not applicable.

11. Readings:

Every student will need to bring a copy of the Coursebook (version 4.1 or later), obtainable from the Student Notes Distribution Centre, Student Union Building; cost approx \$25.00, **to all classes**. Lists of recommended texts relating to particular topics are provided in the lecture material in the Coursebook, which also includes a comprehensive bibliography for the course. A large number of books and periodicals useful for this course have been placed on 3 day loan and closed reserve.

Recommended:

The **recommended textbooks** for this course are

Bauer, Laurie 2007. *The Linguistics Student's Handbook*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Crowley, Terry, John Lynch, Jeff Siegel & Julie Piau 1995. *The Design of Language: An Introduction to Descriptive Linguistics*. Auckland: Longman Paul.

or

Fromkin, Victoria & Robert Rodman 1993. *An Introduction to Language*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

Fromkin, Victoria, Nina Hyams, & Peter Collins, Mengister Amberber & Mark Harvey 2009 (6th Australian ed.) *An Introduction to Language*. Melbourne: Cengage.

It is expected that every student will have access to one or more of these books, which are held in multiple copies by the University library.

Vicbooks has two locations - Student Union Building on Kelburn Campus and Rutherford House on Pipitea Campus (which stocks textbooks for Law and Commerce only). They distribute student notes (for Law (all stages) and Commerce from stage 2 upwards only) from the Pipitea shop and the student notes shop on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz

We can courier books to customers or they can be picked up from either shop the day after placing an order online.

We can be contacted by telephone

Kelburn 463 5515

Pipitea 4636160

Opening hours

8am - 6pm Mon - Fri (during termtime - we close at 5pm in the holidays)

10am - 1pm Saturday

12. Materials and equipment: Not applicable.

13. Assessment requirements:

Assessment will be based on 4 brief assignments, and a final test. Where applicable, word-limits will be stated on the individual assignment handouts.

		Due date	Contribution to final grade
i	Assignment 1: Phonetics	22 March	20%
ii	Assignment 2: Phonology	19 April	20%
iii	Assignment 3: Morphology	10 May	20%
iv	Assignment 4: Syntax	24 May	20%
v	Test	4 June	20%

Assignments should be handed in to the lecturer no later than the day the assignment is due or to the LALS Office (VZ210). Please keep a back-up copy of your assignment.

Reasonable accommodation is made with respect to assessment procedures for students with disabilities (see also General University Policies below).

N.B. Note that if no work is submitted for assessment before the last two weeks of teaching, there will be nothing on which to base an aegrotat consideration.

Marks out of 20 correspond to grades as in the following table, which will be used in the four assignments:

below 8	E	13-13.5	B
8-9.5	D	14-14.5	B+
10-10.5	C	15-15.5	A-
11-11.5	C+	16-16.5	A
12-12.5	B-	17-20	A+

The pieces of work listed above will assess your ability to manipulate linguistic terminology and the skills in linguistic analysis that you have acquired and your familiarity with basic concepts in each of the major areas of linguistics covered in the course.

Submitting assignments and tasks

General guidelines

When submitting typed or word-processed assignments:

- Set margins to at least 2.5 cm
- Set line spacing to 1.5
- Set font size of 12 point
- Include page numbers
- Include a title page which shows the course number and name, your name, the course lecturer, the title of the assignment, and the date the assignment is due
- Provide a word count at the end of the assignment (not including the Reference section)

Hard copy submissions

- Put a LALS cover-sheet on the assignment, and complete the information requested there
- Type on one side of A4 paper
- Staple pages together
- Avoid presenting assignments in bulky folders or sleeves unless necessary
- Avoid inserting individual pages in clearfile sleeves

14. Penalties:

In line with school policy, assignments handed in after the due date will receive a considerably reduced grade unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other evidence of exceptional circumstances. If you require an extension for good reasons, ask the course convener ahead of the date for handing in the assignment. ONLY ASSIGNMENTS CARRYING A COVER-SHEET SIGNED BY THE COURSE CONVENER HAVE A VALID EXTENSION PERMITTED TO THEM.

The four assignments are all due on **Mondays at 4:00 pm**. Unless you have a valid extension granted for your assignment, the following penalties will apply:

	Penalty
For assignments handed in after Monday 4:00 pm but before the following Monday at 4:00 pm	Maximum grade possible is C and no personal comment will be provided
For assignments handed in after Monday 4:00 pm in the week after the due date	No mark

Plagiarism is not acceptable in assessed work, and will be penalised. The penalty will depend on the severity of the plagiarism. See General University Policies.

15. Responsibilities for practicum arrangements (practicum courses only): Not applicable.

16. Mandatory Course Requirements (Terms):

In addition to obtaining at least a C grade overall, students must meet the following mandatory requirements in order to pass this course:

- All students must submit all four of the assignments.
- All students must sit the test.

- All students must attend at least one tutorial before the end of week 3 of the course.

The final date for handing in work to count for the course is Friday 4 June, 2010 at 5:00 pm.

17. Communication of additional information:

Additional information or information on changes will be conveyed to students via class noticeboards and Blackboard.

18. Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

19. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx

Lecture Schedule

Week	Lecture	Area	Topic	Lecturer
1	1	Introd/Phonetics	The linguist's toolbox	PW
	2	Phonetics	Sound analysis	PW
	3	Phonetics	The IPA's consonants	PW/LB
2	4	Phonetics	An l for an l	PW
	5	Phonetics	Our sounds	PW
	6	Phonetics	Say 'ah'!	PW/LB
3	7	Phonology	The fat cat sat on the mat	PW
	8	Phonology	You belong to me	PW
	9	Phonology	Is that a regular rule?	PW
4	10	Phonology	Smile when you say that.	LB
	11	Phonology	Why me? And why here?	PW
	12	Phonology	Is that pot or port?	PW
5	13	Phonology	Envy that car!	PW
	14	Phonetics	Where are you from, and haven't you changed?	PW
Easter				
6	15	Morphology	What is a word?	LT
	16	Morphology	Mr Purple People Eater	LT
	17	Morphology	Bits of words	LT
7	18	Morphology	The result of sticking bits together	LT
	19	Morphology	Analysing words in other languages	LT
	20	Morphology	Sound, meaning and other things	LT/PW
8	21	Syntax	How do we know what a sentence bad is?	EP
	22	Syntax	This makes a phrase but does that do so too?	EP
	23	Syntax	Noun spotting	EP/PW
9	24	Syntax	I can't be having spoken like that.	EP
	25	Syntax	She's a subject, isn't she?	EP
	26	Syntax	What's a doing word doing in a place like this?	EP/PW
10	27	Syntax	This is the verb that ate the noun that killed the adverb that trod on the adjective that lived in the sentence.	EP
	28	Syntax	On paying fees to fish	EP
	29	Syntax	Trees with big branches	EP/PW
11	30	Semantics	Beer with me, I'm from New Zealand	PW
	31	Semantics	The morning star is the evening star	PW
	32	Semantics	Putting words together	PW
12	33	General	Sounds in the field	EP
	34	General	Grammar in the field	EP
	35		TEST	