

**SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES**

**LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME**

**LING 211: Introduction to Linguistics**

**TRIMESTER 1 2011**

28 February to 2 July 2011

**Trimester dates**

Teaching dates: 28 February to 3 June 2011

Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 1 May 2011

Study week: 6–10 June 2011

**Withdrawal dates**

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

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

**Names and contact details**

**1. Course Coordinator:**

**Sasha Calhoun**

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**2. Staff:**

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

**3. Tutors**

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

**4. Class times and locations**

**Lectures: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:10-2:00pm in HM LT105**

**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 4 March 2011.

Tutorial lists will be posted on the Linguistics Notice Board (see below) and Blackboard at the end of the first week of the trimester. Tutorials commence in the second week (beginning 7 March). Check the lists *before* that date. Do not miss your first tutorial. You may not change tutorials without asking 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.

**5. Course delivery** will be through lectures, demonstration classes and tutorials as above, and through students' own reading.

**6. Communication of additional information**

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

**LALS main office:** VZ210, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Von Zedlitz Building, Kelburn Parade

**Course Administrator:**

Vivien.Trott, Undergraduate administration Tel: 463 5255, Fax: 463 5604

[Vivien.Trott@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Vivien.Trott@vuw.ac.nz)

**Web contact:** [www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz](http://www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz)

## 7. Course 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. Learning 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. 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 tutorials, and to all classes in the morphology, syntax and semantics sections of the course.**

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 (6<sup>th</sup> 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.

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 7 February to 11 March 2011, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 3 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

### 11. 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	21 March	20%
ii	Assignment 2: Phonology	4 April	20%
iii	Assignment 3: Morphology	2 May	20%
iv	Assignment 4: Syntax	23 May	20%
v	Test	3 June	20%

Assignments should be handed in to the lecturer or to the LALS Office (VZ210) no later than 1.10pm on the day the assignment is due. Please keep a back-up copy of your assignment. Reasonable accommodation is made with respect to assessment procedures for students with disabilities (see Where to find more detailed information 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

## 12. 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 1.10 pm**. Unless you have a valid extension granted for your assignment, the following penalties will apply:

	Penalty
For assignments handed in after Monday 1.10 pm but before the following Monday at 1.10 pm	Maximum grade possible is C and no personal comment will be provided
For assignments handed in after Monday 1.10 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. For more information on plagiarism see the website <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>.

## 13. Mandatory course requirements

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 3 June, 2011 at 4:00 pm.

#### **14. 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.

#### **15. 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>

#### **16. WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION**

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study). Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress). Most statutes and policies are available at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy), except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx) (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/avcacademic](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic).

## Lecture Schedule

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