FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTCS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME
LING 111 INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS
20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 1 July 2015

Teaching dates: 2 March to 5 June 2015

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3–19 April 2015

Study period: 8–12 June 2015

Examination/Assessment Period: 12 June to 1 July 2015

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at 3.10pm – 4pm in COLT122

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 2015.

Tutorial lists will be posted on Blackboard at the end of the first week of the trimester. Tutorials commence in the second week (beginning 10 March). Check the lists *before* that date. Do not miss your first tutorial. You may not change tutorials without asking the Course Coordinator.

The **tutorial programme** is an essential element of this course. Students will find they cannot acquire techniques of linguistic analysis without attending tutorials regularly.

Names and contact details

Course coordinator:
Dr Sasha Calhoun
Room: VZ318
Phone: 04 463 9537
Office hours: by appointment
Email: sasha.calhoun@vuw.ac.nz

Lecturers:

Prof Miriam Meyerhoff
Room: VZ 301
Phone: 04 463 5614
Office hours: TBA
Email: miriam.meyerhoff@vuw.ac.nz

Dr Elizabeth Pearce
Room: VZ 303
Phone: 04 463 5616
Office hours: TBA
Email: elizabeth.pearce@vuw.ac.nz

Course Administrator:

Dayna Taramai
Room: VZ 210
Phone: 04 463 5255
Office hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 4.15pm
Emails: dayna.tarami@vuw.ac.nz

Tutors:

Tutors will introduce themselves in the first tutorial. Their contact details will be posted on Blackboard.

Communication of additional information

A significant portion of the material for the course will be communicated through Blackboard, this includes assessment and many helpful resources. It is essential that students on the course become familiar with the Blackboard site for LING 111, and regularly check it. Also, email messages will be regularly sent by teaching staff to students through Blackboard. By default, this goes to your @myVUW account. Therefore, please make sure you check this account frequently, or forward messages from this account to an email address you do check frequently.

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

Prescription

An introduction to basic linguistic concepts and terminology and to methods of linguistic analysis in the areas of phonetics (the sounds used in human languages), phonology (sound systems), morphology (word structure), syntax (sentence structure) and sociolinguistics (language use).

Course content

A detailed schedule of the topics covered in each lecture and tutorial will be posted on Blackboard.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. explain concepts basic to modern linguistics
2. identify characteristics shared by human languages

3. explain why a language is referred to as a system
4. use descriptive linguistic terminology accurately to discuss language structure and use
5. distinguish linguistic elements at the levels of phonetics, phonology, morphology, semantics and syntax
6. outline and define major relationships between language and society
7. analyse a variety of languages at one or more of these levels of analysis.

Teaching format

Course delivery will be through lectures and tutorials as above, through Blackboard and through students' own reading. Some of the lectures will be in the format of demonstration classes.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50% students must:

a. submit at least one Blackboard skills test in each skills area (these will be explained in class and on Blackboard)
b. submit both assignments
c. gain a mark of at least 40% in the final exam
d. attend at least 8 out of 11 tutorials.

The final date for handing in work (apart from the final exam) to count toward the mandatory course requirements is Friday 5 June, 2015 at 4:00pm.

In exceptional circumstances, where a student does not meet one or more of the mandatory requirements because of illness or another legitimate reason, the Course Coordinator may allow the substitution of equivalent work for that requirement, at her discretion.

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 2 with preparation for and revision after classes, including reading to confirm your understanding of the lecture material. You should spend at least 3 hours a week completing Blackboard skills tests and preparing for tutorials. The remaining 6 hours per week need to be spent on preparation for the assignments and for the final exam (averaged over the trimester).

Assessment

	Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Blackboard skills tests (best 5)	20%	4,5,7	23 March-5 June 2015*
2	English perception assignment (1500 words)	20%	1-3,6	23 March 2015
3	Multilingual world assignment (1500 words)	20%	1-7	25 May 2015
4	Final examination (2 hours)	40%	1-7	In exam period

* Blackboard skills tests related to different parts of the course will become available through the trimester, with due dates from 23 March-5 June. The best five completed

by their due date count for assessment. This will be explained further in class and in tutorials.

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

Information on marking criteria will be given with each assessment item.

Submission and return of work

Blackboard skills tests are to be marked and returned via Blackboard. The other assignments should be handed in BOTH via the submission link on Blackboard AND to the lecturer (preferable) or to the LALS Office (VZ210) no later than 3.10pm on the day the assignment is due. Please keep a back-up copy of your assignment. Graded assignments will be returned in class. If you are not present in class to collect your assignment, you should collect it from VZ 210.

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
- Put a LALS cover-sheet on the assignment, and complete the information requested there (available under Course Resources on Blackboard)
- Staple pages together
- Avoid presenting assignments in bulky folders or sleeves unless necessary
- Avoid inserting individual pages in clearfile sleeves

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

If you require an extension for good reasons, ask the course coordinator ahead of the date for handing in the assignment. ONLY ASSIGNMENTS CARRYING A COVER-SHEET SIGNED BY THE COURSE COORDINATOR HAVE A VALID EXTENSION PERMITTED TO THEM.

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. The assignments are due on their due date at **3.10pm**. Unless you have a valid extension granted for your assignment, the following penalties will apply:

	Penalty
For each *working day* in the week following the due date	One grade (5%) less and no feedback will be provided
For assignments handed in one week late before 3.10 pm	Maximum grade possible is C- and no feedback provided
For assignments handed in later than 3.10pm one week after the due date	No mark, but may still count towards the mandatory course requirements

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
www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism

Set texts and recommended reading

There are no set texts for the course. However, it is expected that students will be regularly reading from relevant sections of an introductory linguistics textbook to support their learning through lecture and tutorial material. Recommended textbooks are:

Fromkin, Victoria et al. 2015. An Introduction to Language: (8th Australian and New Zealand Edition). Cengage. (sixth edition or later OK)

See also:

Bauer, Laurie 2012. Beginning Linguistics, Palgrave.

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

Crowley, Terry et al 1995. The Design of Language: An Introduction to Descriptive Linguistics. Auckland: Longman Paul.

Most of these are available from VicBooks: www.vicbooks.co.nz. They are also held in multiple copies by the University library.

Further recommended reading will be included with the lecture material and on Blackboard. A large number of books useful for this course have been placed on 3 day loan and closed reserve.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Early Alerts (Course Signals)

This course is using the Early Alerts (Course Signals) System which aims to help students to be successful in their study at Victoria. The system is designed to help students assess their progress in their study, so that they can adjust their work effort or seek support early in the semester, to help them succeed.

Students will receive a traffic light signal through the course Blackboard page:

Green tick means high likelihood of succeeding in the course (if your progress does not decline).

Yellow triangle means potential problem with succeeding in the course (if your progress does not improve); and

 Red cross means high likelihood of failing the course (if your progress does not improve);

Students will also receive email messages from their Course Coordinator via their Blackboard email address, which by default is their @myVUW account.

Information on resources and support services are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support

Student feedback

Student feedback on this course is welcome at any time. As this is the first time this course has been offered, there is no feedback available on this course in previous years.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progess (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz