



School of Humanities and Languages

**LING5026, *Introduction to Linguistic Analysis*
Semester 2, 2014**

1. Course Staff and Contact Details
2. Course Details
3. Learning and Teaching Rationale
4. Teaching Strategies
5. Course Assessment
6. Attendance/Class Clash
7. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism
8. Course Schedule
9. Course Resources
10. Course Evaluation and Development
11. Student Support
12. Grievances
13. Other Information

1. Course Staff and Contact Details			
Course Convenor			
Name	Dr Mengistu Amberber	Room	MB241
Phone	9385 2299	Email	m.amberber@unsw.edu.au
Consultation Time	Wednesday 2-3pm, or by appointment		
Other teaching staff			
Name	TBA	Room	
Phone		Email	
Consultation Time			

2. Course Details	
Units of Credit (UoC)	6
Course Description	This course, focusing on the scientific study of language, introduces students to the essentials of the foundational areas in linguistics, including the basic principles of phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics.
Course Aims	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To describe the most salient aspects of language structure within the context of cross-linguistic grammatical variation. 2. To enable students to apply the basic techniques of theoretical and descriptive linguistics in the analysis of the phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic/pragmatic properties of natural languages.
	At the end of the course students should be able to:
Student Learning Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply the techniques of phonetics/phonology to transcription and data analysis and recognize the morphological structure of words; 2. Apply the syntactic principles they have learnt to analysing sentences in a variety of languages; 3. Apply the basic principles of semantic and pragmatics in the analysis of meaning.
Graduate Attributes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding of the knowledge base of phonology as one of the major components of theoretical and descriptive linguistics; 2. Skills in critical analysis; problem solving skills 3. The ability to engage in independent and reflective learning.

3. Learning and Teaching Rationale

This is a core course in the Linguistics postgraduate program and is included to enable students understand the basic properties of language structure from the perspective of descriptive and theoretical linguistics.

4. Teaching Strategies

The teaching strategies involve seminars and group discussion.

5. Course Assessment

Assessment Task*	Length	Weight	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Graduate Attributes Assessed	Due Date
4 In-class quizzes	20 mins each	20% (5% each)	1,2,3	1,2,3	On-going (further details in the <i>Exercises</i> file)
In-class test	90 mins	35%	1,2,3	1,2,3	Thursday, 23 October
Take-home problem set**	2 hours	45%	1,2,3	1,2,3	Friday, 7 November
<p>*Please note that assessment tasks and schedule are subject to revision.</p> <p>** The take-home problem set is handed out in class one week prior to its due date.</p>					

Please Note: In addition to fulfilling the above assessment requirements, students are expected to attend at least 80% of their lectures and tutorials in order to pass the course.

Grades

All results are reviewed at the end of each semester and may be adjusted to ensure equitable marking across the School.

The proportion of marks lying in each grading range is determined not by any formula or quota system, but by the way that students respond to assessment tasks and how well they meet the objectives of the course. Nevertheless, since higher grades imply performance that is well above average, the number of distinctions and high distinctions awarded in a typical course is relatively small. At the other extreme, on average 6.1% of students do not meet minimum standards and a little more (8.6%) in first year courses. For more information on the grading categories see

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/academiclife/assessment/GuideToUNSWGrades.html>

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Assignments which are submitted to the School Assignment Box must have a properly completed School Assessment Coversheet, with the declaration signed and dated by hand. The Coversheet can be downloaded from

<https://hal.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/courses/course-outlines/>. It is your responsibility to make a backup copy of the assignment prior to submission and retain it.

Assignments must be submitted before 4:00pm on the due date. Assignments received after this time will be marked as having been received late.

Late Submission of Assignments

Late assignments will attract a penalty. Of the total mark, 3% will be deducted each day for the first week, with Saturday and Sunday counting as two days, and 10% each week thereafter.

The penalty may not apply where students are able to provide documentary evidence of illness or serious misadventure. Time pressure resulting from undertaking assignments for other courses does not constitute an acceptable excuse for lateness.

6. Attendance/Class Clash

Attendance

Students are expected to be regular and punctual in attendance at all classes in the courses in which they are enrolled. Explanations of absences from classes or requests for permission to be absent from classes should be discussed with the teacher and where applicable accompanied by a medical certificate. If students attend less than 80% of their possible classes they may be refused final assessment.

Students who falsify their attendance or falsify attendance on behalf of another student will be dealt with under the student misconduct policy.

Class Clash

A student who is approved a permissible clash must fulfil the following requirements:

- a. The student must provide the Course Convenor with copies of lecture notes from those lectures missed on a regular basis as agreed by the Course Convenor and the student.
- b. If a student does attend a lecture for which they had secured a permitted clash they will still submit lecture notes as evidence of attendance.
- c. **Failure to meet these requirements is regarded as unsatisfactory performance in the course and a failure to meet the Faculty's course attendance requirement. Accordingly, Course Convenors will fail students who do not meet this performance/attendance requirement.**
- d. Students must attend the clashed lecture on a specific date if that lecture contains an assessment task for the course such as a quiz or test. Inability to meet this requirement would be grounds for a Course Convenor refusing the application. If the student misses the said lecture there is no obligation on the Course Convenor to schedule a make-up quiz or test and the student can receive zero for the assessment task. It should be noted that in many courses a failure to complete an assessment task can be grounds for course failure.

7. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism.

The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how to not plagiarise. Information is available on their website: <http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/>. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However, more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in an Honours thesis) or even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here:

<http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf>

8. Course Schedule			
<i>To view course timetable, please visit: http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au/</i>			
Week	Topic	Seminar Content	Readings
31 July (Week 1)	Introduction; Morphology (I)	Introduction: the nature of human language; Introduction to the structure of words	Chapters 1, 3 (Textbook)
7 August (Week 2)	Morphology (II)	Introduction to the structure of words; Morphological processes	Chapter 3
14 August (Week 3)	Syntax (I)	Introduction to syntactic structures	Chapter 4
21 August (Week 4)	Syntax (II)	Syntactic processes	Chapter 4
28 August (Week 5)	Semantics	Introduction to the study of meaning	Chapter 5
4 September (Week 6)	Pragmatics	Meaning and language use	Chapter 5
11 September (Week 7)	Phonetics	The sounds of language	Chapter 6
18 September (Week 8)	Phonology (I)	Phonological analysis	Chapter 7
25 September (Week 9)	Phonology (II)	Phonological analysis	Chapter 7
Mid-semester break 29 September – 12 October			
16 October (Week 11)	Revision (Ch.1 – 7)		
23 October (Week 12)	In-class test		
30 October (Week 13)	Summary and Conclusion		

*Please note that seminar topics **are subject to revision.**

9. Course Resources

Textbook Details

Fromkin, V. *et al*, 2012. *An Introduction to Language*, 7th Australian Edition, Cengage.

Additional Readings

Baker, M. (2001). *The Atoms of Language*. Basic Books.

Chomsky, N. (1986). *Knowledge of Language: Its Nature, Origin & Use*. Praeger.

Finegan, E. *et al*, (1997) *Language: Its Structure and Use*, Second Australian Edition, Harcourt Brace.

Gardner, H. (1987). *The Mind's New Science: A History of the Cognitive Revolution*. Basic Books.

Pinker, S. (1994). *The Language Instinct*. Penguin.

Pinker, S. (2007). *The stuff of thought: Language as a window into human nature*. Viking.

Websites

[UCLA Phonetics Lab](#)

[Interactive Phonetics](#)

[IPA fonts](#)

[Ethnologue](#)

[The World Atlas of Language Structure Online](#)

10. Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means including UNSW's Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process.

11. Student Support

The Learning Centre is available for individual consultation and workshops on academic skills. Find out more by visiting the Centre's website at:

<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au>

12. Grievances

All students should be treated fairly in the course of their studies at UNSW. Students who feel they have not been dealt with fairly should, in the first instance, attempt to resolve any issues with their tutor or the course convenors.

If such an approach fails to resolve the matter, the School of Humanities and Languages has an academic member of staff who acts as a Grievance Officer for the School. This staff

member is identified on the notice board in the School of Humanities and languages. Further information about UNSW grievance procedures is available at:
<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/Complaints.html>

13. Other Information

myUNSW

myUNSW is the online access point for UNSW services and information, integrating online services for applicants, commencing and current students and UNSW staff. To visit myUNSW please visit either of the below links:

<https://my.unsw.edu.au>

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/ABC.html>

OHS

UNSW's Occupational Health and Safety Policy requires each person to work safely and responsibly, in order to avoid personal injury and to protect the safety of others. For all matters relating to Occupational Health, Safety and environment, see

<http://www.ohs.unsw.edu.au/>

Special Consideration

In cases where illness or other circumstances produce repeated or sustained absence, students should apply for Special Consideration as soon as possible.

The application must be made via Online Services in myUNSW. Log into myUNSW and go to My Student Profile tab > My Student Services channel > Online Services > Special Consideration.

Applications on the grounds of illness must be filled in by a medical practitioner. Further information is available at:

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/SpecialConsideration.html>

Student Equity and Disabilities Unit

Students who have a disability that requires some adjustment in their learning and teaching environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the course convener prior to or at the commencement of the course, or with the Student Equity Officers (Disability) in the Student Equity and Disabilities Unit (9385 4734). Information for students with disabilities is available at: <http://www.studentequity.unsw.edu.au>

Issues that can be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional examination and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.