

INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS

LING 201, CRN 2217

Fall 2012

MWF 10:35-11:25, STBIO S1/3

Instructors

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Teaching Assistants

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Alanah McKillen:	alanah.mckillen@mail.mcgill.ca
Office Hours:	All TA office hours will take place Wednesday 14:30 to 15:30 in room 117, 1085 Dr. Penfield Avenue (Linguistics Department)

Content of Course

This course is an introduction to linguistic theory and analysis. Topics covered include phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics. The goal is to familiarize students with current tools of linguistic analysis. Students will be required to display an understanding of these tools by applying them to data from several languages. The main type of evaluation, therefore, will be problem solving through assignments, quizzes and exams.

Requirements and Assessment

4 Homework Assignments: 24% (6% each)

6 Quizzes: 9% (1.5% each)

Midterm Exam: 27%

Final Exam: 40%

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

Required Readings

Textbook (available at McGill bookstore; also on reserve at Redpath Library):

W. O'Grady & J. Archibald, *Contemporary Linguistic Analysis: An Introduction (7th edition)*. Pearson Longman.

One course pack, containing the following (available at McGill Bookstore; also on reserve at Redpath Library):

S. Pinker, *The Language Instinct*. Harper Collins (Chapters 1, 2).

J. Saeed, *Semantics*. Blackwell (Chapters 1, 4, 7&7).

If you lack background in traditional grammar, you may wish to consult:

L. LaPalombara, *An Introduction to Grammar: Traditional, Structural, Transformational*. Winthrop (Chapters 2-10) (on reserve at Redpath Library).

Course Rules and Procedures

Conferences:

Starting in Week 2, there will be no lectures on Fridays. Instead, you will attend conferences run by a TA. Each TA will hold two conferences per week as follows:

Mike Hamilton:	F 10:35-11:25	F 9:35-10:35
Gretchen McCulloch:	F 10:35-11:25	F 12:35-13:25
Alanah McKillon:	F 10:35-11:25	F 11:35-12:25

To determine which conference you will attend, you must sign up on Minerva. Once you have signed up for one section, you cannot switch to another. An effort will be made to divide the students evenly among the TAs. This means that once one TA has a certain number of students, no more students will be accepted into that section. In order to know where your conference meets, check Minerva.

You are responsible for the material covered in conferences just as you are responsible for the material covered in lectures. If for some reason you cannot attend a conference or lecture, you should make sure that you get the relevant notes from a classmate.

Office Hours:

TA office hours are held every week, starting in Week 3, on Wednesday 14:30 to 15:30. There will be extra office hours before the midterm and final exam, which will be posted later. The TAs will take turns covering the office hours so you will have a chance to meet with different TAs. All TA office hours will be held in Room 117 (on the first floor of 1085 Penfield).

Individual Appointments:

If you are unable to meet with TAs or professors during their office hours, you can ask for individual appointments and generally these can be arranged within one week of the request.

Tutors:

If you feel that you need more individual attention, we encourage you to contact either the Student Tutorial Service (398-6011) or SLUM (the undergraduate linguistics student association: slum.linguistics@mail.mcgill.ca). Of course, it is understood that tutors help with the content of the course but do not help directly with assignments. Make sure that your tutor knows what is being covered in the course this term since the content can change from term to term.

E-mail Inquiries:

TAs and professors can respond to e-mail questions and comments. However, please do not expect instant responses. We will try to respond within two working days (though we will be more vigilant closer to assignment due dates and exam times). Students often find that the discussions on MyCourses are the most helpful.

Homework Assignments:

Assignments may be done in groups. However, a group may contain a maximum of three students and all group members must be from the *same* conference. Also, each student must write up his or her assignment individually; that is, each student must turn in a separate assignment. If you worked in a group, you must provide the names of the students who you worked with on the first page of your assignment.

All assignments are due on Fridays at 12:35PM. If you are registered in one of the five conferences that take place *before* 12:35 on Friday, you can either hand in your assignment to your TA in your conference or you can hand it in to the department secretary by Friday at 12:35PM on the due date. If you are registered in the conference that starts at 12:35 on Friday,

you may pass in your assignment to your TA at the *beginning* of your conference or you may hand it in to the department secretary *before* the conference begins.

The secretary's office is room 112, 1085 Penfield. All students who hand in their assignments to the department secretary will receive a form confirming when the assignment was handed in. Assignments will not be accepted after 12:35PM on Fridays unless you have a documented medical excuse and we have been notified within 24 hours of when the assignment was due. Messages may be left at (514) 398-4222, even on weekends.

We recommend that you always keep a copy of your finished assignment in case the assignment is accidentally lost.

Quizzes:

Quizzes are done during the conference sessions (whether your conference takes place on Thursday or on Friday). More information will be provided in the lectures prior to each quiz to help you prepare for these.

Midterm Exam:

The midterm exam is scheduled for **TBA**. It will take place in **TBA**. A make-up midterm will be arranged for students who have a conflict with the midterm as scheduled. To be eligible, students must be registered in a conflicting course with a higher priority than LING 201. (LING 201 is Priority 2, behind PSYC 305.) **Students who qualify must let Jozina Vander Klok know by e-mail at jozina.vanderklok@mail.mcgill.ca no later than Wednesday October 17th.**

A Note on Assignments, Quizzes, Exams:

No make-up assignments, quizzes or midterm exam will be given to anyone who does not have a certified medical excuse. These will all be verified by phoning the doctor. We must be notified within 24 hours of a missed assignment, quiz or midterm exam. You may leave messages at (514) 398-4222, even on weekends.

According to Senate regulations, instructors are not permitted to make special arrangements for final exams. Please consult the Calendar, section 3.7, *General University Information and Regulations*. (See <http://www.mcgill.ca/student-records/exam/regulations> for more information on final and deferred exams.)

Any problem with grading or with a missing assignment/quiz/exam must be reported within one week of when the assignment/quiz/exam was returned.

No answer to any graded assignment, quiz or exam question will be re-assessed unless the answer was originally written in ink and it has not been written over.

Academic Integrity:

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest for more information).

L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest).

Schedule of Dates

WK	DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS & TESTS	REQUIRED READING
1	W Sep 5	Introduction 1		read Pinker
	F Sep 7	Introduction 2		read O’G&A, ch. 1
2	M Sep 10	Phonetics 1		read O’G&A, ch. 2
	W Sep 12	Phonetics 2		
	F Sep 14	<i>Conference 1</i>	quiz 1	
3	M Sep 17	Phonetics 3		
	W Sep 19	Phonetics 4		
	F Sep 21	<i>Conference 2</i>	quiz 1 returned	
	F Sep 21		assign 1 posted on <i>MyCourse</i>	
4	M Sep 24	Phonology 1		read O’G&A, ch. 3 (skim §3.5; do not skip appendix)
	W Sep 26	Phonology 2		
	F Sep 28	<i>Conference 3</i>	quiz 2	
	F Sep 28		assign 1 due at 12:35PM	
5	M Oct 1	Phonology 3		
	W Oct 3	Phonology 4		
	F Oct 5	<i>Conference 4</i>	quiz 2 & assign 1 returned	
6	M Oct 8	<i>HOLIDAY</i>		read O’G&A, ch. 4 (do not skip appendix)
	W Oct 10	Morphology 1		
	F Oct 12	<i>Conference 4</i>	quiz 3	
	F Oct 12		assign 2 posted on <i>MyCourse</i>	
7	M Oct 15	Morphology 2		
	W Oct 17	Morphology 3		
	F Oct 19	<i>Conference 5</i>	quiz 3 returned	
	F Oct 19		assign 2 due at 12:35PM	
8	M Oct 22	Morphology 4		
	W Oct 24	Morphology 5		
	F Oct 26	<i>Conference 6</i>	assign 2 returned	
9	M Oct 29	Syntax 1		read O’G&A, ch. 5 (skip §5.5, do not skip appendix)
	TBA		MIDTERM EXAM: 18:05-19:55, TBA	
	W Oct 31	Syntax 2		
	F Nov 2	<i>Conference 7</i>	quiz 4	
	F Nov 2		assign 3 posted on <i>MyCourse</i>	

10	M	Nov 5	Syntax 3		
	W	Nov 7	Syntax 4		
	F	Nov 9	<i>Conference 8</i>	midterm exam returned; quiz 4 returned	
	F	Nov 9		assign 3 due at 11:35 AM	
11	M	Nov 12	Syntax 5		
	W	Nov 14	Syntax 6		
	F	Nov 16	<i>Conference 9</i>	quiz 5; assign 3 returned	
12	M	Nov 19	Semantics 1		read Saeed, ch. 1
	W	Nov 21	Semantics 2		read Saeed, ch. 4
	F	Nov 23	<i>Conference 10</i>	quiz 6; quiz 5 returned	
	F	Nov 23		assign 4 posted on <i>MyCourse</i>	
13	M	Nov 26	Semantics 3		read Saeed, ch. 7, §7
	W	Nov 28	Semantics 4		
	F	Nov 30	<i>Conference 11</i>	quiz 6 returned	
	F	Nov 30		assign 4 due at 12:35PM	
14	M	Dec 3	Semantics 5		
	W	Dec 5	Semantics 6	assign 4 returned	
		TBA	Review		