Introduction to Linguistics

(ENGL 351)

Spring 2013 Sec. 001 MWF 11:00–11:50 a.m. HLG 203

COURSE MATERIALS
Linguistics for Non-Linguists. 5th ed.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course explores several aspects of language, including its meanings, grammar, sounds, and neurology. Although we use language constantly, the class’s examination of the linguistic process will explore approaches that are quite probably new to students, but indicative of the complicated nature of communication.

OBJECTIVE
Students should acquire a clear understanding of the varied linguistic topics covered in the course and appreciate the interaction of the processes in language.

PREREQUISITES
To enroll in ENGL 351, students must have earned a “C” or better in ENGL 102, ESOL 102, ENGL 115, or have advanced placement.

ATTENDANCE
Attendance is necessary, and I recommend that students read the discussion of Class Attendance in the Undergraduate Bulletin 2011–2013 (Vol. 85), 394–395. Each student is solely responsible for signing the attendance sheet passed around during each class—the only way he or she will be marked present—and for getting any assignments, notes, or announcements she/he may miss as a result of an absence. Make-up tests—which can be in a different format and have different questions—must be taken during my office hours within 48 hours of the student's return to class, or the test grade will be recorded as a zero. Finally, remember that failure to attend class does not constitute a withdrawal; dropping is an administrative procedure that students must undertake for themselves, and failure to withdraw from the course after ceasing to attend will result in a failure for the course.
GRADING

This course uses a standard ten-point grading scale:

- 90–100 = A
- 80–89  = B
- 70–79  = C
- 60–69  = D
- 0–59   = F

There will be no curve on the tests. So, for instance, an 89.4 is a B. I refuse to entertain any pleas for special consideration. I do not give Incompletes except in very rare instances—and only when I am provided with documentation and with approval of University officials.

The four tests will be weighted equally. There will be absolutely no extra-credit work available.

- Test 1 – 25%
- Test 2 – 25%
- Test 3 – 25%
- Test 4 – 25%

EXPECTATIONS & POLICIES

Students are expected to keep up with the readings, which denotes having read the material scheduled for discussion at each class meeting. Further, students should have completed all the exercises in the text as preparation for class. Simply follow the schedule to keep current, unless/until I inform you of a change.

Tests will check students’ mastery of and familiarity with their readings and understanding of the classroom lectures’ content. Although these tests might be made up of objective questions, students must be able to apply, analyze, and synthesize their knowledge of factual information.

All cellular telephones and pagers should be turned off before class to avoid disturbance. Students needing to communicate with the outside world should unobtrusively leave for the day, forfeiting credit for attendance. Further, no electronic devices (cellular telephones, handheld PDAs, laptop computers, calculators, etc.) are needed during tests. If I see a student with one of these items, either on the desk or viewable on the floor, a grade of “0” will be given for the test—no discussion needed or allowed.

Students caught cheating will fail the course, not the individual task alone, and will be reported to the Dean of Students Office. See the discussion of Academic Honesty in the Undergraduate Bulletin 2011–2013 (Vol. 85), 395.

Because I will neither open any e-mail that does give the course in the subject line nor respond to anonymous or vague e-mail messages, students must provide that information, being clear what class they are in, who they are, and the specifics of their question/concern. Note that after the final class meeting, students will need to wait until the following semester to communicate
with me: that is, the last day of class is the last day to call or e-mail me in expectation of a response. Further, note that I shall not return telephone calls from long-distance numbers.

Finally, I urge students to visit the course Web site (http://www.ucs.louisiana.edu/~cah2547/introlingmain.htm)—which has not only this current information, but also links to related supplemental pages—and to see the Moodle site for this course, where I will distribute any handouts and where students can discuss topics in forums.

**DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION POLICY**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette makes accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a documented disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 482-5252 or ods@louisiana.edu during the first week of classes. ODS will assist you with an accommodation plan. The university also has a Supported Education Program (SEP), which provides free confidential help on campus for students with psychological disabilities (Bipolar Disorder, Depression, Anxiety, etc.). Please contact Kim A. Warren, MSW, PhD, LCSW, Supported Education Advisor, at 482-5252 or kimawarren@louisiana.edu. Her office is located in the Conference Center, room 126. Also, if you have a disability or special needs, please let me know as soon as possible.

**EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

- University Police are the first responders for all emergencies on campus. Dial 911 or 482-6447 to report any emergency.
- The Emergency Information Floor Plan is posted in the hallways for every building. This document includes evacuation routes and other important information. Please familiarize yourself with this document. Students who might need assistance should identify themselves to the teaching faculty.
- In the event that the building fire alarm is sounded, please exit the building immediately and notify University Police. Do not use the building elevator—look for the illuminated Exit Signs to direct you to safety.
- During times of emergency, information may be available on the University’s Emergency Hotline: 482-2222. This number is printed on the back of your ID card.
- The university utilizes a text message service to notify its students and employees of campus wide emergencies. To subscribe to this service, log on to http://www.ul.mobilecampus.com.
- If you have a disability, special needs, or a medical condition that might render you incapacitated during class, please make this known to your instructor as soon as possible, including any emergency contact information for your next of kin or similar person.