



LING 100.001: Introduction to Language and Linguistics
2018 Winter Term 1

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the scientific study of human language. We study language as a universal and uniquely human cognitive system. The following two questions will drive the discussion in the course: 1) Which properties are universal for languages? 2) Which properties are different? After an introduction to these questions, we will examine which mechanisms underlie sound patterns (phonology), word formation (morphology), sentence structure (syntax), meaning of words and sentences (semantics), and meaning in context (pragmatics). We will also investigate how language is acquired, as well as which differences arise between dialects of a language. Through discussion of these various topics, we will examine the question of what language can tell us about the human mind.

Lectures:

Time: Mon, Wed 8:00 – 8:50

Location: West Mall Swing Space Building 221

Instructor: Neda Todorović and Hotze Rullmann
Email: neda.todorovic@ubc.ca hotze.rullmann@ubc.ca
Office: 2351 Brock Hall Annex
Office hours: Monday, 10:00 – 11:00

TAs and tutorials:

Tutorial: Check your schedule for time and location
TA office: 2354 Brock Hall Annex

Adriana Osa-Gómez adriana.osa-gomez@ubc.ca Office Hours: Wed, 1:00pm – 2:00pm Tutorials: T03, T4D

Oksana Tkachman: oksana.tkachman@ubc.ca Office Hours: Mon, 9:00am – 10:00am Tutorials: T01, T4C

Anne Bertrand: anne.bertrand@ubc.ca Office Hours: Wed, 4:00pm – 5:00pm Tutorials: T02, T4E

Course materials:

- **Textbook (REQUIRED):** Yule, George. *The Study of Language*, 6th edition (Cambridge University Press, 2016). You can also have an older edition.
- **Technology (REQUIRED):** Clicker (please bring this to each lecture)
- **Website:** Canvas: <http://canvas.ubc.ca> (for course content, quizzes, grades, and discussion)
- **Additional readings:** Hockett, Charles F. 1960. The Origin of Speech. *Scientific American* 203P 89-97.
- **Additional material:** Additional material will be posted on the website.

Grading Policy and Course Requirements

Semester grades will be based on:

Semester grades	Number	%	Dates and deadlines
Online quizzes	10	7 (7/10 count; 1% each)	
Mid-term Exam 1	1	22	Oct, 10
Mid-term Exam 2	1	22	Nov, 14
Assignments	4	20 (5% each)	Sept. 19 Oct. 3 Oct. 24 Nov. 21
Final Group Project	1	20	Nov. 30
Attendance and Participation		8	
Linguistics outside the classroom		1	
Total		100%	

Note: There is NO final exam!

Additional remarks regarding grading:

- **No negotiation of marks/grades.** Marking errors (miscalculations only) will be corrected. Otherwise, the mark you receive is the final mark. For any questions on how your mark was calculated, you should contact your TA.
- **Marking errors: Statute of limitations.** Miscalculations should be brought to our attention within one week (7 calendar days) of an assignment being returned. After this point, grades will stand as marked.
- **Scaling.** Faculties, departments, and schools reserve the right to scale grades in order to maintain equity among sections and conformity to university, faculty, department, or school norms. Students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.

LECTURES, TUTORIALS AND NOTES

- **Please show up for class on time, be prepared, and stay till the end.** Lecture notes and tutorial worksheets will be posted on the course website (usually after class); it is not guaranteed that electronic notes will be posted for every lecture.
- Each student **must enroll** in a tutorial section. Tutorials begin in the first week, and meet each week, unless otherwise noted. Please print out the tutorial handout (if any) and bring it to class.

ON-LINE QUIZZES

- **Quizzes on Canvas will be held during the weekend.** Typically, they will be on the material to be studied in preparation for the **following** week's classes (textbook + any supplementary reading).
- Time for taking the quiz: You will have 30 minutes to do each quiz; each quiz will be available on Canvas for 48 hours (Saturday and Sunday). **There will be no quiz in the weekends before the midterm exams.**
- Quizzes count for **1%** each. Your lowest three quiz marks (out of 10 total) will be dropped.
- **Quizzes may NOT be rescheduled or retaken for any reason.** If you forget, or you are prevented to take it for any other reason, these count towards your dropped quizzes.
- **Missed quizzes result in a mark of 0 (zero), without exception**

ASSIGNMENTS

- Assignments will be posted on the course website **on Wednesdays**. You need submit them in **hard copy** to your TA at the beginning of the following Wednesday lecture (i.e., you have a week to complete them). **Late assignments will NOT be considered for credit.**

Honour Code. Every assignment must include the following statement, plus your signature: **“I have abided by the UBC code of academic integrity.”** This statement indicates that you have abided by the code on all issues relating to that assignment.

- **You may work together to arrive at answers for assignments, but each student should write up their own responses, and you should indicate which other students you worked with.** NB: Assignments that include identical answers will be treated as violations of the Honour Code.
- If you have a problem downloading an assignment or reading, contact with your TA or instructor immediately. In order to avoid technological problems, you should download assignments and readings ASAP. Students should retain a copy of all submitted assignments.

MIDTERM EXAMS

- **The midterm exams may NOT be made up or rescheduled**, barring emergencies or advance-notice agreement (at my discretion). **Missed exams may be made up only in case of family or medical emergency (with a suitable note from a doctor).** If you know in advance that you will have to miss the midterm, please let both your TA and the instructor know as early as possible.

FINAL GROUP PROJECTS

- **In the tutorials in the last week of classes** (on Friday, November 30), students will give brief presentations in small groups on a linguistic topic of their choice. For these projects, you need to conduct a certain amount of research based on the published literature. The student groups will work on their chosen topics in their tutorials during the second half of the term under the guidance of the TAs. More detailed instructions will be provided in the course of the term.

MARK FOR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Attendance at lectures and tutorials is **required**. Attendance at lectures will be monitored via clicker participation: if you forget your clicker, it will be as if you are not in class. TAs will take attendance at tutorials. Your participation grade (**8% of course grade**) will consist of the following components:

- 4% for attendance in lectures
- 4% to be awarded by the TA and myself for your level of participation in the tutorials and the course generally. Factors taken into account include asking and answering questions in tutorials, completing tutorial worksheets, participation in discussion board on the course website, etc.

LINGUISTICS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM (PARTICIPATION IN AN EXPERIMENT)

Participation in Linguistics Outside the Classroom (LOC) is **required** for this course. This is a means of increasing your involvement in learning about linguistics outside of regular classroom instruction. There are two ways of satisfying this requirement:

- (1) Participate in 1 point worth of experiments being run by researchers in the Department of Linguistics. To sign up for experiments, please visit <https://ubclinguistics.sona-systems.com> to register and participate. Experiments typically take anywhere from 15 minutes to 1 hour and offer the opportunity to contribute to and learn about linguistics research first hand. Your participation in research is voluntary.

OR

- (2) Attend one Linguistics research seminar or colloquium and write a one-paragraph summary of the talk, which you turn into your instructor within a week of attending. You can browse the talk series here: <http://www.linguistics.ubc.ca/events>.

You should complete your LOC participation **before the end of classes, i.e. by November 30 at the latest**. You are strongly advised to sign up for your experiment on the SONA system as early as possible. Make sure to fill in the correct course number (Ling 100) or your participation points will not be credited. Inability to complete the LOC requirement due to late scheduling on your part or filling in the wrong course number on SONA will not be accepted as a reason.

Fall 2018 LING 100.001 – Schedule

Notes:

- Any changes to the course schedule will be announced on the website.
- Additional readings and other source materials (such as videos) may be assigned. These will be available online on the course website.
- The assigned materials for each week should be studied **before Monday's class**.

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings	Assignments
1	Sept. 5	Introduction	Yule, Chapter 1	
2	Sept. 10 – 12	Design features; Animal communication	Yule, Chapter 2, Hockett	
3	Sept. 17 – 19	Phonetics: Production and Structure of Speech Sounds	Yule, Chapter 3	Assignment 1 due Sept. 19
4	Sept. 24 – 26	Phonology: Function and Patterning of Sounds	Yule, Chapter 4	
5	Oct. 1 – 3	Morphology: The Study of Word Formation	Yule, Chapter 5&6	Assignment 2 due Oct. 3
6	Oct. 8	No class – Thanksgiving		
	Oct. 10	MIDTERM EXAM 1		
	Oct. 12	Tutorials		
7	Oct. 15-17	Syntax: The Study of Sentence Formation	Yule, Chapter 7&8	
8	Oct. 22	Semantics	Yule, Chapter 9	Assignment 3 due Oct. 24
	Oct. 24	Pragmatics	Yule, Chapter 10&11	
9	Oct. 29 – Nov. 1	Historical Linguistics	Yule, Chapter 17	
10	Nov. 5 – 7	Language Acquisition	Yule, Chapter 13	
11	Nov. 12	No Class (holiday in lieu of Remembrance Day)		
	Nov. 14	MIDTERM EXAM 2		
	Nov. 16	Tutorials as usual		
12	Nov. 19-21	Language and Culture	Yule, Chapter 20	Assignment 4 due Nov. 21
13	Nov. 26 – 28	Sociolinguistics	Yule, Chapter 18&19	
	Nov. 30	Final Presentations of Group Projects (in tutorials)		

Course Drop/Withdrawal Deadlines:

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,45,99,0>

Special Notes

Flexible Learning and the “Flipped Classroom”

This course is among those selected for participation in UBC’s Flexible Learning Initiative. The basic idea is to shake the lecture format up a bit, by putting content online, and doing more participatory activities in class (the so-called “flipped classroom”). This means that it is absolutely essential that you study the assigned materials (textbook chapters, online readings and video’s) **before coming to class**, and that you **actively participate** in class and in the tutorials. **You should take responsibility for your own learning.** While this holds for your university education in general, it’s especially the case in flexible learning courses.

Communication

Use Canvas’ discussion board to get your questions answered by your classmates. The discussion board is especially useful for getting quick answers to logistical questions.

You are encouraged to meet with a TA or the instructor during office hours if you have questions about course material. The TAs will staff the office hours by rotation, so you may encounter a different TA than the one who’s teaching your tutorial. This is perfectly fine – all TAs are qualified to help you with your concerns. You may also email us with questions about organizational matters, or to set up an appointment outside of normal office hours.

With any email query, **you should first contact your TA.** We may not respond to email questions on short notice, for example, the day before the exam. Please plan accordingly.

Academic Misconduct and the Honour Code

The UBC policy on academic misconduct is in effect at all times in this class, both in letter and spirit. **I will treat violations of it seriously.** If you ever have questions about academic integrity or misconduct, or their application in this class, you should bring them to me.

In this course, you must include your handwritten signature on all exams and assignments, and a statement (“I have abided by the UBC code of academic integrity”), indicating that you have abided by the Honour Code. All work that you turn in is to be your original work. You may not turn in another person’s work as yours,

and quoted material must be properly cited. You may not give or receive assistance to/from another person during exams or quizzes, nor receive information from any materials or means not authorized by the instructor. YOUR SIGNATURE OR STATEMENT ON YOUR WORK indicates that you have abided by the code of academic integrity on all issues relating to that assignment. *Work without your signature or statement will receive a mark of 0 (zero), without exception.*

Academic Misconduct that is subject to penalty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. PLAGIARISM. Plagiarism occurs where an individual submits or presents the work of another person as his or her own. Scholarship quite properly rests upon examining and referring to the thoughts and writings of others. However, when excerpts are used in paragraphs or essays, the author must be acknowledged in the text, through footnotes, in endnotes, or in other accepted forms of academic citation. Plagiarism extends from where there is no recognition given to the author for phrases, sentences, or ideas of the author incorporated in an essay to where an entire essay is copied from an author, or composed by another person, and presented as original work. Students must ensure that when they seek assistance from a tutor or anyone else that the work they submit is actually their own. Where collaborative work is permitted by the instructor, students must ensure that they comply with the instructor's requirements for such collaboration. Students are responsible for ensuring that any work submitted does not constitute plagiarism. Students who are in any doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism should consult their instructor before handing in any assignments.

2. CHEATING. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: falsifying any material subject to academic evaluation; having in an examination any materials other than those permitted by the examiner; and using unauthorized means to complete an examination (e.g. receiving unauthorized assistance from a fellow student).

3. SUBMITTING THE SAME, or substantially the same, essay, presentation, or assignment more than once (whether the earlier submission was at this or another institution), unless prior approval has been obtained from the instructor(s) to whom the assignment is to be submitted.

NB: Using someone else's clicker, or allowing someone else to use yours, is Academic Misconduct.

***For more information (including info about disciplinary measures) see the University Calendar:

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,286,0,0>

Violations of the Honour Code may result in disciplinary action, including a failing grade for the course, suspension from scholarships, or expulsion from the University.

Take this seriously and abide by this code of conduct. Remember to put your signature and statement on your work.

Student Accommodations

The University accommodates students (1) with disabilities who have registered with Access and Diversity, and (2) whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. **Let me know in the first week if you will require accommodation on these grounds.**

Illness and Absence: If you experience medical, emotional, or personal problems that affect your attendance or academic performance, you should discuss this with Arts Academic Advising (or your home Faculty's Advising Office). **I may require a note from Arts Academic Advising or a health care professional before I grant any accommodations** (such as extending a due date). If you are registered with Access and Diversity, you should notify your instructor at least two weeks before examination dates. If you are planning to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other commitments, you should not assume that these will be accommodated, and you should discuss your situation with the instructor before the drop date.

Respectful Environment and Student Code of Conduct:

It is very important that we foster an environment that is respectful of all participants in the course, no matter what their background. Students, faculty, and staff should be aware of the UBC president's Statement on Respectful Environment and related university policies. See this website for more information: <http://www.hr.ubc.ca/respectful-environment/>

All students are also bound by UBC's Student Code of Conduct:

<http://students.ubc.ca/campus-life/student-code-conduct>

Wellbeing: Being a university student can sometimes be stressful. If you are experiencing any sort of personal, psychological, medical or financial difficulties, I strongly encourage you to seek help at an early stage. There are many resources for students available on campus. The following page is a very useful guide for a wide variety of services related to your wellbeing:

<http://students.ubc.ca/livewell>

If someone you know is in distress, here is a place where you can find ways to help them:

<http://students.ubc.ca/livewell/concerned-about-student/how-help-other-students>

Other Policies

All electronic equipment (except for clickers) is prohibited in class.* This includes laptops, e-readers and iPad-type devices, cellphones, iPod/mp3 players, etc.). These must be **turned off and put away at all times** during lectures. Violation of this policy will result in deductions to your participation grade. See these two articles (but NOT during class!) for the drawbacks of technology in the learning environment:

http://www.npr.org/2016/04/17/474525392/attention-students-put-your-laptops-away?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=npr&utm_term=nprnews&utm_content=20160826

and

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0360131512002254/>

* **Exception:** if registered with Access and Diversity, students with special needs may need to record lectures or use a note-taker on a laptop. If that is you, come and see me this week so that you can be granted an exemption.

You are responsible for all material covered in class. Students who have missed class for any reason are responsible for finding out what information they have missed. Exams, assignments and tutorials will draw heavily on material covered in lectures.

You are responsible for information on the course Canvas sites and should check them regularly.

To get the best possible grade in this class, you should attend all lectures and tutorials (on time), and come prepared. Lectures are based on the assumption that you have already

completed the reading. You will get more out of class time (and thus eventually get a better grade) if you do the reading and watch the online content when they are assigned. Canvas quizzes are designed precisely to test your reading so that we can free up some class time for **flexible learning**.

I reserve the right to . . .

- expect compliance with these policies, and to grade accordingly.
- change the reading, assignment, or course schedule, as our speed requires.
- test/quiz you on information from any reading, lecture, class discussion, posted website, etc.
- make announcements via Canvas/email and hold you accountable for that information.
- make the ultimate decision about late assignments, make-ups, rescheduled exams, etc.