

# TYOLOGY

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Office hours: Monday 1:00-2:00, Tuesday 10:00-12:00 and by appointment.

## Required Textbooks:

*Introduction to Typology: The Unity and Diversity of Language*, by Lindsay J. Whaley (Sage Publications).  
*The Atoms of Language: The Mind's Hidden Rules of Grammar*, by Mark C. Baker (Basic Books).

Prerequisites: 615-201 (Intro to Linguistic Theory) and 615-305 (Syntax)

## Purpose and Goals:

To learn about how different languages of the world can be from each other.  
To learn about some of the deep similarities among languages that are lurking underneath the surface of all these apparent differences.  
To see how some of the concepts and methods learned in other linguistics classes (especially Syntax) mostly in the context of English can be applied in useful ways to other kinds of languages.

## Evaluation:

- Class involvement (attendance, participation, showing evidence of interest and understanding) --10%
- 2 Problem Sets and 2 Quizzes (or 3 and 1?) -- 40% (10% each)
- Research project: choose a language, and address questions like the following:  
How does it compare to the languages discussed in class? What "type" is it?  
How do the theoretical tools developed in class apply to it?  
What is special about this language, giving it a different feel from others?  
Presented as 15 minute class presentation on the highlights, and a more complete written version, turned in 12 May 2004. --50%

Schedule and Tentative Specific Topics:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic (+text reading)</u>
1	Jan. 22	Getting Acquainted, What is Typology and why might you care? (AoL, Chapter 1; Textbook: Chapter 1)
2	Jan. 26, 29	Background Issues and Methods; Languages of the World (AoL, chapter 2; Textbook: Chapters 2, 3, 4 as needed)
3	Feb. <2>, 5	Word order universals, Head initial and Head final languages (AoL, Chapter 3; Textbook: Chapters 5, 6)
4	Feb. 9, 12	Correlates of head-first and head-last order: what's the same? What isn't? (Textbook: Chapters 14, 15)
5	Feb 16, 19	Word order variation by movement (1): head *PROBLEM SET* verb initial languages, verb second (AoL Ch 5, pp. 123-43)
6	Feb 23, 26	Word order variation by movement (2): phrases VP-initial languages, other approaches to OV languages
7	Mar. 1, <4>	Head movement and Serialization Constructions (Textbook: Chapter 16)
8	Mar 8, 11	Head movement and Synthetic vs. Analytic languages *QUIZ* (Textbook: Chapter 8.1, 7 if you need it, skim 12)
	Mar 15, 18	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>
9	Mar 22, 25	Head movement and Valency change: noun incorporation, Causative, applicative, passive (Textbook: Chapter 11)
10	Mar 29, Apr 1	Head marking and Polysynthetic languages. *PROBLEM SET* (AoL, Chapter 4; Textbook: Chapter 8.2, 9)
11	Apr. 5, 8	More on polysynthesis; partial head marking languages, Subject vs object in agreement (AoL, Chapter 5, pp. 143-56)
12	Apr 12, 15	Ergative languages: Case marking and NP-movement (Textbook: review chapter 4.3, chapter 9) *QUIZ*
13	Apr 19, 22	Languages without adjectives or nouns? (Textbook: chapter 4.1) Class presentations on Languages
14	Apr 26, 29	Class presentations on Languages (AoL, chapter 6)
15	May 3	Big picture, General issues (AoL, chapter 7)

'AoL' stands for *The Atoms of Language*.

'Textbook' for *Introduction to Typology*.

(Note: the two dates in <brackets> are likely to be cancelled for administrative reasons.)