Spring 2023 Introduction to Linguistic Theory

Catalog Code and Section Number: 01:615:201:H1

Site: https://rutgers.instructure.com/courses/213506

Instructor and Contact Information:

Huteng Dai, Department of Linguistics

huteng.dai@rutgers.edu. Reply within 48 hours excluding weekends

Meeting Days, Times, Location, and Modality:

Monday 10:20 AM-11:40 AM

Thursday 10:20 AM-11:40 AM

Hardenbergh Hall, College Avenue

In-person course, no Zoom alternative unless tested COVID-positive

Office Hours / Student Support Hours:

Monday 1:00 pm-2:00 pm

18 seminary place, College Avenue, TA's room (basement)

By appointment (email or talk to the instructor if you want to visit)

Purpose: it's **not** time to reteach course materials. Time to discuss graduate school and career plans, communication strategies, help with study habits and organization, etc.

Description:

This course is an introduction to linguistics, the scientific study of human languages. Language scientists propose hypotheses about different aspects of human language and seek evidence for their linguistic theory. In this course, we focus on the core architecture of formal linguistics. You will learn how to analyze a human language based on its phonetics (the physical signal of speech sounds), phonology (the structural pattern in speech sound), morphology (words and word formation), syntax (how sentences and phrases are built and structured), semantics (how words and phrases are associated with meaning), pragmatics (how language is used and the contexts in which it is used). This course will teach you to understand human languages and provide you with skills and knowledge for advanced courses in linguistics and many language-related fields.

This course does **NOT** teach various languages or invented languages in literature such as Dothraki, which is taught in invented Languages (01:615:190). Although this course does

not have a course prerequisite, a general intro to linguistic concepts in Invented Languages is highly recommended.

Required Texts and Course Materials:

None

Technical / Technology Requirements

You should have access to a laptop to submit online assignments. Available in College Ave Computer Center.

Learning Goals:

At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand significant subfields within linguistics.
- Understand, create, and manipulate representations and analyses in morphology, syntax, semantics, phonetics, and phonology.

Department learning goals met by this course:

- Students will reason about language; identify how incorrect or irrational assumptions and prejudices distort their understanding of language; demonstrate knowledge about language in the world including a sophisticated understanding of linguistic and cultural variation and evaluate popular views on the nature of human languages and their speakers.
- Majors and Minors will also demonstrate technical mastery over the tools of linguistic analysis in syntax, phonology, and semantics and apply linguistic theory in these areas. They will investigate linguistic data and analyze it; demonstrate strong problem-solving skills; extend their understanding of theoretical linguistics into other domains of linguistic research; apply the techniques of linguistics that they have learned in the core courses to new topics; and access current research in the field. Some students will investigate language in a broader context, where it can be systematically and rationally explored using their sophisticated understanding of how language works.

This course has been approved as a Core Curriculum Course and satisfies these 2 Core Curriculum learning goals:

- Understand the nature of human languages and their speakers.
- Apply effective and efficient mathematical or other formal processes to reason and solve problems.

Visit http://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/academics/requirements/core for information on the Core Curriculum.

Evaluation and required work

Your final grade is based on homework assignments, midterm and final exams, and attendance/participation (both in lecture and recitation). The percentage-wise breakdown is on the left, and the corresponding letter grades are on the right. We won't grade on a curve. **There is no P/NC policy this semester**.

Grading Scale

A	≥90%
B+	85–89.9%
B	80–84.9%
C+	75–79.9%
C	70–74.9%
D	60–69.9%
F	≤ 59.9%

The number will **NOT** be rounded. E.g. if your grade is exactly 89.9%, you won't be rounded to an A.

Assessment / Grading breakdown

- 6 out of 8 assignments (lowest 2 dropped) 50%

  Homework and exams must be submitted to Canvas by the due date and time. Late submissions are not accepted, but your two lowest-scoring homework will be dropped.

- Midterm exam 20%
- Final exam 20%

  Missed exams will result in a score of zero for the exam unless accompanied by proof of illness or due to religious observance.

- Participation 10%

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You are expected to attend every lecture and recitation session synchronously. If you miss a class, you are responsible for viewing the recording(s) before the next class and completing the assignments in a timely manner.

Schedule of Topics

	Monday	Thursday	Note
Week 1 (Jan 16-22)		Intro	
Week 2 (Jan 23-29)	Phonetics I	Phonetics II	HW1 Assigned
Week 3 (Jan 30-Feb 5)	Phonetics III	Phonetics IV	HW2 Assigned
Week 4 (Feb 6-12)	Phonology I	Phonology II	
Week 5 (Feb 13-19)	Phonology III	Phonology IV	HW3 Assigned
Week 6 (Feb 20-26)	Morphology I	Morphology II	
Week 7 (Feb 27-March 5)	Morphology III	Morphology IV	HW4 Assigned
Week 8 (March 6-12)	Midterm review	Midterm	
Week 9 (March 13-19)	Spring Recess!		
Week 10 (March 20-26)	Syntax I	Syntax II	HW5 Assigned
Week 11 (March 27-April 2)	Syntax III	Syntax IV	HW6 Assigned
Week 12 (April 3-9)	Semantics I	Semantics II	HW7 Assigned
Week 13 (April 10-16)	Semantics III	Semantics IV	
Week 14 (April 17-23)	Pragmatics I	Pragmatics II	HW8 Assigned
Week 15 (April 24-30)	Computational Linguistics	Computational Linguistics	
Week 16 (May 1-7)	Final review	Final exam	

Assignments are usually assigned on Monday and are due on Monday before the class.

COVID-19 Vaccine and Boosters: All students and employees who have not been granted a health or religious exemption are required to be fully vaccinated, obtain a booster when eligible, and upload proof of vaccination and boosters to the vaccine portals found at https://coronavirus.rutgers.edu/covid-19-vaccine/.

Face Coverings: Face coverings are not required in academic or administrative settings. Wearing a face covering is <u>required of all faculty, staff, students, and visitors in all clinical settings</u>. While masking is optional in academic and administrative settings, we do encourage it.

Testing for Non-vaccinated Students and Employees: Students and employees with medical or religious waivers from the COVID-19 vaccine requirement must continue to test once per week using self-administered rapid tests and upload their results to <u>https://rtr.ipo.rutgers.edu/questionnaire/</u>.

Test Kit Availability: Testing kits for COVID-19 continue to be available through vending machines that are located on all campuses. All students, irrespective of vaccine waiver status, may avail themselves of up to two tests per week at no cost. Faculty and staff are entitled to free test kits and can order them at <u>https://www.covid.gov/tests</u>.

Disability Accommodations

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where they are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: http://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS website at: ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form.

Civility / Communication / Classroom Community / Sensitive Topics

Please promote respectful communication and create a supportive classroom community that celebrates diversity.

If you noticed potentially sensitive or uncomfortable topics, language, or images in the course content, please contact the instructor immediately.

Academic Integrity Policy

Rutgers University takes academic dishonesty very seriously. By enrolling in this course, you assume responsibility for familiarizing yourself with the Academic Integrity Policy and the possible penalties (including suspension and expulsion) for violating the policy. As per the policy, all suspected violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to):

- Cheating

- Plagiarism
- Aiding others in committing a violation or allowing others to use your work
- Failure to cite sources correctly
- Fabrication
- Using another person's ideas or words without attribution, including re-using a previous assignment Unauthorized collaboration
- Sabotaging another student's work

If you are ever in doubt, consult your instructor.

Rutgers honor pledge will be added on all significant/high stakes assessments for students to sign:
On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this [examination/assignment].

Please read the following sites for the university policy:

Academic Integrity: http://nbacademicintegrity.rutgers.edu/

Copyright for Students: https://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/research-tools-and-services/copyright-guidance/copyright-students

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professionals within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy, and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community, and consultation and collaboration with campus partners. Call (848) 932–7884 or visit rhscaps.rutgers.edu.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling, and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff, and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to get an advocate after hours, call 848–932–1181.

Scarlet Listeners

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space. Call 732–247–5555 or visit scarletlisteners.com.

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Here is a list of more Rutgers resources to support students in students academic success and mental wellness:

Student Success Essentials: https://success.rutgers.edu

Student Support Services: https://www.rutgers.edu/academics/student-support

The Learning Centers: https://rlc.rutgers.edu/

Rutgers Libraries: https://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/

Bias Incident Reporting: https://studentaffairs.rutgers.edu/bias-incident-reporting

Office of Veteran and Military Programs and Services: https://veterans.rutgers.edu

Student Health Services: http://health.rutgers.edu/