COURSE AIMS AND OUTCOMES
This course is an introduction to the field of linguistics. As linguistics is itself an entire
discipline (like political science or physics), that is a very tall order. We will at least touch on
almost all the major subfields in linguistics, including the history of language, sociolinguistics
and linguistic variation, and pragmatics. While our focus will be on the ‘core’ areas of
contemporary technical linguistics – phonology, morphology and syntax – we will also
examine broader questions about how language works, where it comes from, and the role it
has in social life. Wherever possible, we’ll also think about the relation between linguistics
and rhetoric, which is an older tradition of thinking about language.

My aim is to provide you with knowledge of linguistics that will help you with the rest of
your program, that will enrich your understanding of literature, rhetoric, and communication.
By the end of the course you should:

- Understand the basic shape of linguistics as a discipline and have a basic grasp of
  some of the philosophical and methodological issues facing linguists
- Be familiar and comfortable with a broad range of concepts in linguistics, which
together cover most of the key subfields within the discipline
- Have a good grasp of basic concepts in phonology, morphology, syntax and the
  study of linguistic variation.
- Be able to analyse sentences and words grammatically.
- Be prepared for advanced or specialized study in linguistics
- Understand many of the key linguistic features of the English language.

READINGS:
There are no formal printed readings for the course; you’ll become acquainted with the
material through lectures and occasional on-line material I’ll assign during the semester.

Throughout the term I will provide links to websites that provide information and analysis
relevant to the topics on the course. You should look at these whenever you can: they will
help master the material on the course.

The PowerPoint presentations used in the lectures will be posted on the course LEARN site.
**CLASSES**
Because there are few readings, nearly all the material covered will be presented in class. Attendance is therefore essential. The class will be in lecture format, but questions and discussion are encouraged. There will be times when I ask the class to discuss an issue in groups and there will be times when I will want questions about the material from the class. The material is often quite technical: if you aren’t clear about what a term means or how we analyse something, ask about it in class (if you are confused, chances are someone else is as well).

**ASSESSMENT:**
The course is assessed on the basis of two midterm exams, given in class, and a final exam. The first midterm will cover the material we look at in weeks 1-5 (general questions in linguistics, phonetics, phonology and morphology). The second midterm will cover syntax, discourse theory and speech act theory. The final exam will cover all the material on the course.

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<td>First midterm</td>
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<td>Second midterm</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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If you fail to appear for an examination, you will be given a mark of 0 for that exam, unless you provide evidence of a medical condition that made it impossible to sit the exam or of an unforeseeable domestic crisis. Please note that the Final Examination period for Winter 2019 is April 10-27 and that student travel plans are not acceptable grounds for granting an alternative final examination time (this applies also to the midterm exams).

**CLASS SCHEDULE:**

**What is linguistics and what does it have to do with language?**
**January 8-10 (week 1)**
Tuesday: What is language? How do we study it?
Thursday: What is linguistics?

**Sounds of language (weeks 2 and 3)**
**January 15-17**
Tuesday: Phonetics
Thursday: Phonology

**January 22-24**
Tuesday: Sound changes (and the history of languages)
Thursday: Sound variations: accents, dialects

**Words and morphemes: meanings, structure and history (weeks 4-6)**
**January 15-17**
Tuesday: Morphology – derivational
Thursday: Morphology – inflectional
January 22-24
Tuesday: Word structures – the classes of words
Thursday: Word meanings

February 5-7
Tuesday: A bit more on words; review
Thursday: Midterm 1

Syntax: combining words into sentences (weeks 7 and 8)
February 12-14
Tuesday: Syntax
Thursday: Syntax

Reading week!: February 18-22

February 26 - 28
Tuesday: Syntax
Thursday: Syntax

Style and situation: embedding sentences in speech (weeks 9 and 10)
March 5-7
Tuesday: Syntax, stylistics, and rhetoric
Thursday: Types of signs, language as discourse

March 12-14
Tuesday: Speech act theory
Thursday: Midterm 2

Language and society (weeks 11 and 12)
March 19-21
Tuesday: Linguistic variation: dialects
Thursday: Linguistic variation: sociolinguistics

March 26-28
Tuesday: Linguistic variation: style
Thursday: Language, origins, historical change

April 2-4
Tuesday: Language and society
Thursday: Review for final examination

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Cross-listed course (requirement for all Arts courses)
Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count
in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

**Academic Integrity**

*Academic Integrity:* In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity webpage](http://uwaterloo.ca) for more information.

*Discipline:* A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. Check the [Office of Academic Integrity](http://uwaterloo.ca) for more information. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](http://uwaterloo.ca). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](http://uwaterloo.ca).

*Grievance:* A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](http://uwaterloo.ca), Section 4. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

*Appeals:* A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](http://uwaterloo.ca).

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

*Note for students with disabilities:* The AccessAbility Services office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

**Mental Health Support**

All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health support if they are needed.

**On Campus**

- Counselling Services: [counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca) / 519-888-4567 ext. 32655
- **MATES:** one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counselling Services
• Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from Student Life Centre

Off campus, 24/7
• Good2Talk: Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
• Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-4300 ext. 6880
• Here 24/7: Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
• OK2BME: set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online on the Faculty of Arts website
Download UWaterloo and regional mental health resources (PDF)
Download the WatSafe app to your phone to quickly access mental health support information

Territorial Acknowledgement
We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.