Linguistics 201
Introduction to Linguistics
Syllabus
Times and Locations

▶ Lecture:
  ▶ Mondays, Wednesdays 1:25-2:15
  ▶ Thompson 106

▶ Discussion Sections:
  ▶ Fridays
  ▶ Time and Location Depend on Section
Course Websites

The main website for the course can be found at

http://people.umass.edu/scable/LING201-SP13
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There is also a Moodle site, which will be used to upload course readings.
E-mail List

Important information will be sent out regularly by e-mail announcements through the Moodle Quickmail system.

- If you are registered for the course, you should already be on it.
- If you were registered as of last Wednesday, you should have already received an e-mail.

If you didn’t receive an e-mail, let your TA know!
Instructor

Seth Cable
scable@linguist.umass.edu
227 South College
Office Hours: Monday 10-12
Teaching Assistants

Michael Clauss
mclauss@linguist.umass.edu
303 South College
Office Hours: Monday 2:30-3:30, Friday 10:30-11:30
Teaching Assistants

Tracy Conner
tconner@linguist.umass.edu
305 South College
Office Hours: Thursday 10-11, 1-2
Teaching Assistants

Josh Levy
jwlevy@psych.umass.edu
426 Tobin
Office Hours: Wednesday 2:30-4:30
Teaching Assistants

Alex Nazarov
anazarov@linguist.umass.edu
303 South College
Office Hours: Tuesday 2:30-4:30
South College
Office Hours Policy

Note:

- You are free to attend *any* TA’s office hours
- (and not just those of the TA for your section).
General Goals of the Course

The main goal is two-fold:
(i) introduce students to the methodology of modern linguistics
(ii) teach analytic reasoning via examination of linguistic data

Thus, you will be taught:

- A basic introduction to some of the main results and ideas of modern linguistics
- The scientific reasoning behind them, so that you can apply that reasoning to novel cases, both in language and in other spheres of life.

Given the focus on formal reasoning, the course satisfies the ‘R2’ general education requirement.
Rough Schedule of Topics

- Week 2: Conceptual Foundations

(See the syllabus for a more detailed schedule)
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- Weeks 3-6: Phonology (Sound Patterns)

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- Weeks 7-9: Morphology (Word Structure)

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- Weeks 3-6: Phonology (Sound Patterns)
- Weeks 7-9: Morphology (Word Structure)
- Weeks 9-13: Syntax (Sentence Structure)

(See the syllabus for a more detailed schedule)
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- Week 2: Conceptual Foundations
- Weeks 3-6: Phonology (Sound Patterns)
- Weeks 7-9: Morphology (Word Structure)
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- Week 13: Typology (Language Variation)

(See the syllabus for a more detailed schedule)
Rough Schedule of Topics

- Week 2: Conceptual Foundations
- Weeks 3-6: Phonology (Sound Patterns)
- Weeks 7-9: Morphology (Word Structure)
- Weeks 9-13: Syntax (Sentence Structure)
- Week 13: Typology (Language Variation)
- Week 14: Child Language Acquisition

(See the syllabus for a more detailed schedule)
Rough Schedule of Topics

- Week 2: Conceptual Foundations
- Weeks 3-6: Phonology (Sound Patterns)
- Weeks 7-9: Morphology (Word Structure)
- Weeks 9-13: Syntax (Sentence Structure)
- Week 13: Typology (Language Variation)
- Week 14: Child Language Acquisition
- Week 14: Psycholinguistics (Language and the Brain)

(See the syllabus for a more detailed schedule)
Course Requirements

- Attendance
  - Tested on material in lecture (not necessarily readings)
  - Friday discussion sections crucial
Course Requirements

- Assignments
  - 9 Assignments, 1/3 of final grade
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Course Requirements

- **Midterm Exams**
  - 2 Midterms, 1/3 of final grade
  - First midterm: **March 4**; Second midterm: **April 8**

- **Assignments**
  - 9 Assignments, 1/3 of final grade

- **Attendance**
  - Tested on material in lecture (not necessarily readings)
  - Friday discussion sections **crucial**
Course Requirements

▶ Final Exam
  ▶ 1/3 of the final grade
  ▶ All exams are cumulative

▶ Midterm Exams
  ▶ 2 Midterms, 1/3 of final grade
  ▶ First midterm: **March 4**; Second midterm: **April 8**

▶ Assignments
  ▶ 9 Assignments, 1/3 of final grade

▶ Attendance
  ▶ Tested on material in lecture (not necessarily readings)
  ▶ Friday discussion sections **crucial**
There is no required text, but if you’re really into this stuff, the following is recommended:

Textbook?

There is no required text, but if you’re really into this stuff, the following is recommended:

O’Grady *et. al* (2010) *Contemporary Linguistics*

Also, several readings will come from the following bestselling popular science work:

Pinker (1995) *The Language Instinct*
Slides, Lecture Notes, Class Handouts

Course content will be presented directly in lecture. Following each lecture, I will post the slides and other material to the course website:

http://people.umass.edu/scable/LING201-SP13/Slides-Handouts
Readings and Tutorials

Assigned readings will be posted on the Moodle site. The readings will also be listed on the course website, along with helpful tutorials:

http://people.umass.edu/scable/LING201-SP13/Readings-Tutorials
A Note on Handouts for Lectures

A few lectures will require you to print out materials (handouts) and bring them with you.

- Handouts will be posted to the course website well before class.
- I will send an e-mail notification when something needs to be printed.
- Handouts will *not* be distributed in class.
Homework Policies: Distribution of Homework

- Homework assignments will be posted on the course website:

  http://people.umass.edu/scable/LING201-SP13/Assignments
Homework Policies: Distribution of Homework

- Homework assignments will be posted on the course website:
  - Assignments will be posted on Monday and due the following Monday
Homework Policies: Distribution of Homework

- Homework assignments will be posted on the course website:
  - Assignments will be posted on Monday and due the following Monday
  - On the Wednesday following due date, answer key will be posted next to assignment.
Homework Policies: Submission

- Submit in hardcopy, prior to Monday lecture
Homework Policies: Submission

- Submit in hardcopy, prior to Monday lecture
- Place assignment in box for your TA (at front of room)
Homework Policies: Submission

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- Place assignment in box for your TA (at front of room)
- **Assignments can be submitted no other way**
Homework Policies: Collaboration

Students are permitted to collaborate on assignments.

However:

▶ Each person must hand in their own write-up (no joint authors).
▶ You must list collaborators at the top of the assignment.
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However:

- Each person must hand in their own write-up (no joint authors).
- You must list collaborators at the top of the assignment.
Homework Policies: Lateness Policy

If your assignment is not ready on the Monday when it’s due:

▶ You must submit a note (in TA box) explaining that it will be submitted on Wednesday
Homework Policies: Lateness Policy

If your assignment is not ready on the Monday when it’s due:

▶ You must submit a note (in TA box) explaining that it will be submitted on Wednesday
▶ If your assignment is not turned in before lecture on Wednesday, *it will not be accepted*
Homework Policies: Lateness Policy

If your assignment is not ready on the Monday when it’s due:

▶ You must submit a note (in TA box) explaining that it will be submitted on Wednesday.

▶ If your assignment is not turned in before lecture on Wednesday, it will not be accepted.

▶ You are only permitted to submit assignments on Wednesday a total of three times.
A Note on Difficulty Level

This class is designed to be moderately challenging

- You will need to memorize formalisms and notations
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- Assignments require you to think creatively
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- You will need to memorize formalisms and notations
- Assignments require you to think creatively
- It’s very important to keep up.
  - If you ’check out’ for a while, it will be very difficult to catch up
More on the Course Website

There is a full syllabus on the course website (with a more detailed schedule of topics)