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Introduction to Language and Linguistics

David M. Johnson
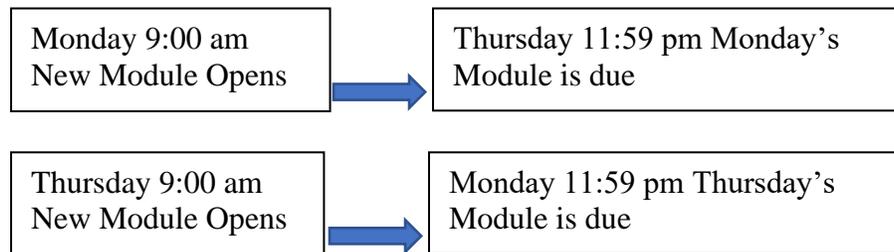*Kennesaw State University*, djohnson@kennesaw.edu

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

Syllabus
LING 3035 (W01): *Introduction to Language and Linguistics*
Radow College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Department of English
(Three Credit Hours) Summer 2022

Course Information

This is an asynchronous online class. Since this is a summer course, the pace will be quicker than a normal semester. On Mondays at 9:00 am, I will release a learning module. You must complete the entire learning module by the following Thursday at 11:59 pm. On that same Thursday, I will release the next learning module at 9:00 am. You must complete that learning Module by 11:59 pm on the following Monday. I explain this in D2L as well.

Monday 9:00 am New Module Opens	Thursday 11:59 pm Monday's Module is due
Thursday 9:00 am New Module Opens	Monday 11:59 pm Thursday's Module is due

Instructor Information

Name: David Johnson, Ph.D.
Email: djohnson@kennesaw.edu (or you may email within the D2L system)
Office Location: EB 224
Office phone: 470-578-6208
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 10:30 – 11:30 am
I will respond to all emails and phone messages within twenty-four hours.

Couse Materials

Bauer, L. and Trudgill, P. (Eds.) (1998). *Language myths*. London: Penguin Books.
         ISBN: 014-02-6023-4
Fromkin, V., Hymes, N., and Rodman, R. (2017). *An introduction to language*.
         Boston: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. (This is the 11th edition.)
         ISBN: 978-1-337-55957-7
We will use these texts for each learning module. Lectures and activities will require that students read the assigned pages.

Required Technology Skills

Students should have basic technology skills such as uploading documents, navigating D2L, and responding to emails. Students should have reliable internet access.

Course Description & Purpose

This course will analyze the nature of human language. It will include an introduction to speech sounds, morphology, syntax, and semantics. A heavy emphasis will be placed on the social and pedagogical implications of modern linguistic theory, which include an examination of issues such as language acquisition, dialect variation, historical linguistics, and English as a Second Language. Prerequisite: ENGL 1101. This is a three-credit course.

Course Objectives

At the end of this course, students should be able to:
1. Students will be able to *define* language and grammar.
2. Students will be able to *diagram* which areas of the brain are responsible for language.
3. Students will be able to *explain* the basic concepts and terms of English phonetics, phonology, morphology, semantics, and syntax.
4. Students will be able to *evaluate* how humans acquire a first and second language.
5. Students will be able to *critique* theories on how dialects of languages develop.
6. Students will be able to *debate* how society reacts to different dialects of language.
7. Students will be able to *analyze* which historical events had an influence on the development of the English language.

Grading and Evaluation Policies

Evaluation and Grading:

Assignment	Points Assessed	Course Objective
Mid-term exam	25%	1-6
Final exam	25%	1-6
Quizzes	25%	1-5
Homework	10%	1-3
Reading Quizzes	5%	1-6
Embedded Lecture Quizzes	5%	1-6
Postings	5%	1-5

A 100% - 90%   B 89% - 80%   C 79% - 70%   D 69% - 60%
F 59% and below

Explanation of Assignments:

Special note:

- *NB: In a traditional classroom, most tests are "closed book." However, in this class since it is online, you are free to use your notes and your book for any assessments. You should **not** consult anyone else during the assessment **nor** should you use the internet. Please note that tests and quizzes will be timed. I strongly encourage you to study the material and prepare for the quiz as if it were a closed-book quiz.*

- **The mid-term and final exams** will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and short essay. The final exam will be cumulative.

- **Quizzes** will be multiple choice and short answer. Quizzes will be listed as one of the items in the learning module.

- **Reading Quizzes** will begin each learning module. You should read the assignment for the learning module and then complete that module's reading quiz before going on to the rest of the learning module. You will not be able to gain access to the learning module until you complete the reading quiz. If you do not complete the reading quiz during the time scheduled for that module, you will receive a zero for that reading quiz. If you miss the reading quiz deadline, you will have to take the quiz (despite the zero) to access the instructional material. The reading quizzes are designed to ensure that you have read the material. You do not have to understand everything in the reading. The learning module will have lots of instructional material to explain the concepts in the readings. However, you should be able to easily answer the reading quiz questions if you have read the material that has been assigned for that learning module.

- **Embedded Lecture Quizzes** will be inserted in most of the lectures. During the lectures, simply answer the questions when they appear during the lecture and then continue with the lecture.

- **Homework** will consist of exercises from our main textbook. These should be typed in Word or made into a PDF and turned into me through D2L's Assignments feature. When there is a written assignment, you will see one part of the learning module will be an assignment. Simply do the assignment and then place it in Assignments. I will grade it and you can access my comments using D2L's GradeMark. Homework is also listed on the syllabus. I do not accept late homework unless there is a verifiable emergency.
  - **Here is how the hw is graded:**
    - **I simply grade it on a straight percentage scale. Some of the HWs have twenty responses, so you get five points for each correct response…for a 100% best total. Other HWs have only four questions so you get up to twenty-five points for each correct answer…for a 100% best total.**

- **Postings** will be a way for students to post their ideas about the topics we discuss.
  - **Here is the rubric for the Postings:**
    - **25% Originality**
    - **25% Grammar and Mechanics**
    - **25% Meets minimal length requirement**
    - **25% Responds well to topic**

Turnitin

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Use posted on the Turnitin.com site.

How to Succeed in this Class

To be successful in this class, please complete the readings before each learning module. Go through all the activities in each learning module and take notes. I would advise not doing all the learning module in "one sitting." It is best to do it over several days.

Attendance Policy

You may miss ONE class with no penalty. After your FIRST absence, your final grade will be reduced by 1% for each additional absence. If you do not log on to D2L during a learning module period and complete the online assignments and activities (including the lectures and documentaries), that will constitute an absence.   NB: When I log in as the instructor, D2L allows me to see the time that you spent on each activity. Please keep this in mind.

Course Expectations

Communication Rules/Online Course Etiquette

In any classroom setting there are communication rules in place that encourage students to respect others and their opinions. In an online environment the do's and don'ts of online communication are referred to as Netiquette. This netiquette resource may prove useful to students.

Diversity Statement

Kennesaw State University prides itself on offering a premiere, personalized educational experience for leadership and engagement within a diverse nation and world. This educational experience is achieved through recognition and appreciation of the differing backgrounds and experiences reflected within the University community. We firmly believe that sensitivity to diversity, equity, and global interdependence is central to fostering supportive living, learning, and working environments. A welcoming and inclusive climate is critical to attaining Kennesaw State University's research, scholarship, teaching, and engagement goals. The University will engage our students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders in order to achieve an inclusive and welcoming campus community.

For detailed information, visit the [Division of Inclusive Excellence and Diversity](#) page.

Institutional Policies

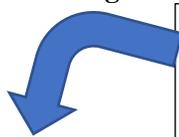[Federal, BOR, & KSU Required Syllabus Policies](#)

KSU Student Resources

This link contains information on help and resources available to students: [KSU Student Resources for Course Syllabus](#)

Course Schedule

BT = *Language Myths* FRH = *An Introduction to Language*

*Note that readings for the learning module should be completed before doing the rest of the learning module. For example, you should read the assigned pages for Learning Module 1 (FRH pp. 1 – 27 and BT pp. 77-84) before beginning the rest of Learning Module 1.

Learning Module Date	Topic	Exams, Quizzes, Postings, Activities, Readings
Start Here Wednesday, June 1	• Introduction to Course	**Course Introduction:** • Go through links on Start Here page • Access Syllabus • Watch Course Tour (with embedded quiz) • Introduce yourself • Access Syllabus **HW 1 – due 11:59 pm June 6** • **Student Introduction**
Learning Module 1 Monday, June 6	• Introduction to course • What is Language? • A New Understanding of Grammar • Animal Language	**Learning Module 1** You must read this BEFORE starting Reading Quiz 1. After RQ 1, you can access LM 1. FRH pp. 1 – 28 BT pp. 77 – 84 **HW 2 – 11:59 pm June 9** • **Exercise #2 p. 28-29 and #5 p. 29 FRH**
Learning Module 2 Thursday, June 9	• Morphology	FRH pp. 33 - 64 **HW 3 – due 11:59 pm June 13** • **Exercise #2 p. 65 FRH** • **Exercise #3 p. 66 FRH** • **Exercise #4 p. 66 FRH** • **Exercise #5 p. 66-67 FRH** • **QUIZ 1 – due 11:59 pm June 13**
Learning Module 3 Monday, June 13	• Syntax • Semantics	FRH pp. 75 – 88; 133 – 136; 141 - 146 BT 132-138 **HW 4 – due 11:59 pm June 16** • **Exercise #3 p. 125 FRH** • **Exercise #4 p. 125 FRH**
Learning Module 4 Thursday, June 16	• Phonetic	FRH pp. 183 - 207 BT 150 – 158 **HW 5 due 11:59 pm June 21** • **Exercise #1 p. 210 FRH** • **Exercise #2 p. 210 FRH** • **Exercise #3 p. 211 FRH** **QUIZ 2 - due 11:59 pm June 21**

Learning Module Date	Topic	Exams, Quizzes, Postings, Activities, Readings
Learning Module 5 Tuesday, June 21	• Phonology	FRH pp. 216 - 227 • HW 6 due 11:59 pm June 23 • Respond to Questions in Learning Module 5
Learning Module 6 Thursday, June 23	• Sociolinguistics	FHR pp. 269 - 281 BT pp. 85 – 93 **Post #1 due 11:59 pm June 27**
Mid-term Exam Monday, June 27	**Mid-term Exam** (available 9:00 am June 27 – 11:59 pm June 30)	**Mid-term Exam** (available 9:00 am June 27 – 11:59 pm June 30)
Learning Module 7 Thursday, June 30	• Sociolinguistic	FRH pp. 281 – 290 BT pp. 103 – 113 **Post #2 – due 11:59 pm July 5**
Learning Module 8 Monday, July 5	• Sociolinguistics	FRH pp. 291-298; 308-311 BT pp. 41 – 49 **HW 7 due 11:59 pm July 7** • **Exercise #5 p. 320** • **Exercise #23 p. 325 FRH** • **QUIZ 3 due 11:59 pm July 7**
Learning Module 9 Thursday, July 7	• History of English and Language Change	FRH pp. 326-333; 337 – 346; 365 – 373 BT pp. 66 - 76
Learning Mod. 10 Monday, July 11	• Language Acquisition	FRH pp. 383-402 BT pp. 50 – 57
Learning Module 11 Thursday, July 14	• Language Acquisition	FRH pp. 298 – 305; 410 – 422 BT 23 – 31 **Post #3 due by 11:59 pm July 18**
Learning Module 12 Monday, July 18	• Brain and Language	FRH pp. 446 - 464 **QUIZ 4 due by 11:59 pm July 21**
Final Exam Monday, July 25 9:00 am – Thursday, July 28 11:59 pm	**Final Exam Monday, July 25 9:00 am – Thursday, July 28 11:59 pm**	**Final Exam Monday, July 25 9:00 am – Thursday, July 28 11:59 pm**