



**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

LING 201-01  
Introduction to Linguistics I  
Spring 2021  
MW 18:00-20:45

COURSE OUTLINE

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Dr. Paul Melchin

**OFFICE HOURS:** Wednesdays 10:00am-11:00am or by appointment (Zoom info on D2L)

**E-MAIL:** paul.melchin@ucalgary.ca (I will respond to e-mails within 48 hours during weekdays)

**DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an introduction to the scientific study of human language, exploring the variety and complexity of its structure and questions of what constitutes linguistic knowledge. The course revolves around the question of what we know when we know a language, in particular, how are we able to pair meanings to sounds in a way that other speakers can understand? How can we form and understand new sentences?

**OBJECTIVES**

We will focus on the five main subfields of theoretical linguistics, which correspond to different areas of grammatical knowledge:

- phonetics (the properties of speech sounds);
- phonology (the organization of those sounds in languages);
- morphology (the structure of words);
- syntax (the structure of sentences);
- semantics (the meaning of words and sentences).

Each of these is an area of the grammar with its own rules and principles that all speakers apply subconsciously.

**OUTCOMES**

Students who complete this course will have an understanding of each of the subfields of linguistics mentioned above, and will be familiar with the scientific methodology of linguistic analysis, which allows us to:

- examine data from various languages;
- identify patterns;
- make generalizations;
- formulate and test hypotheses about the linguistic structure of these languages.

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

- 1) William O'Grady & John Archibald (2021). *Contemporary Linguistic Analysis: An Introduction* (9th edition). Pearson.
  - Note that the book is available to purchase in the university bookstore
  - You may consider purchasing the ebook version
- Any additional materials will be posted on D2L

**RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS**

- William O'Grady & John Archibald (2021). *Study guide for contemporary linguistic analysis: An introduction* (9th edition). Pearson.



## Faculty of Arts

### School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

#### COURSE NOTES

The material for this course will be delivered synchronously over Zoom. Class time will involve both lectures and practice exercises. Lecture slides will be posted prior to each session. Recordings of each lecture will be posted to D2L for students to view asynchronously. Students should not record lectures, either in Zoom or externally. A forum will be provided for each lecture on D2L in order to address questions that arise outside synchronous lectures. While attendance at the synchronous lectures is not required, it is strongly encouraged, especially due to the accelerated nature of courses in the summer intersession.

All assessments will take the form of take-home assignments, distributed and submitted (as .pdf documents) through D2L. Late assignments will be accepted with a penalty of 10% per day, unless there is a valid excuse. None will be accepted after the answers have been discussed in class, one week after the due date.

The University's full technological requirements for online courses (including links to financial support to meet these needs) can be found here: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/technology-requirements-for-students/>. The key list of items is reproduced below:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware protection updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone, with ability to record audio;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection

For this course, Zoom capability, and all associated secure connectivity, with audio and at least the ability to view video is essential for the synchronous sessions. Stable internet connections will be helpful, though there will be flexibility if your living situation does not make this possible during class time.

Students will be asked to attend lectures with their audio muted and camera off, in order to limit distraction and bandwidth usage. At any point during class time students will have the opportunity to ask questions via the chat function in Zoom; questions asked by the instructor can be answered in the same way.

Course evaluations will be online via D2L.

#### ASSESSMENT

4 homework assignments (15% each)	60%
1 midterm take-home exam	20%
1 final take-home exam	20%

**Homework assignments:** There will be four take-home homework assignments throughout the semester. These will involve problem solving and short-answer questions. Each is worth 15% of your final grade. They will be posted to D2L by the end of class on the day given in the schedule. They will be submitted as PDF documents via D2L. Late submissions will be penalized by 10% for each day past the due date, including weekends. They will not be accepted after the answers are discussed in class, one week after the due date. The homework assignments are individual work. You may discuss the work with other students, but you must turn in your own work. Copying another student's answer is cheating, as is sharing an exact answer with another student. If you worked with someone, please write their name(s) on the assignment. You will be given two days to complete each homework assignment; they will be due on May 12, May 19, June 2, and June 9.



## Faculty of Arts

### School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

**Take-home exams:** The midterm and final exam will be take-home assignments. Each will be worth 20% of your mark. The format will be similar to the homework assignments, but will be longer, with more long-answer questions. Due to the nature of the class, they will be cumulative. They will be submitted as PDF documents via D2L. The take-home exams are individual work. You may discuss the work with other students, but you must turn in your own work. Copying another student's answer is cheating, as is sharing an exact answer with another student. If you worked with someone, please write their name(s) on the assignment. You will be given a week to complete each exam; the midterm will be due on May 26 and the final on June 23.

**Extra credit:** Students may add an optional bonus component that can add up to 4 points to their final grade. The educational objective of this component of the course is to provide students with an introduction to contemporary research in the field of linguistics. Students can complete this component by either participating in ongoing research studies in the linguistics division, by completing 1-page article evaluations from a designated list, or by a combination of these two options. More information will be posted on D2L.

#### GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100-97 A = 93-96 A- = 92-88 B+ = 87-83 B = 82-78 B- = 77-73 C+ = 72-68 C = 67-63  
C- = 62-58 D+ = 57-53 D = 52-50 F = 49%

#### INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

##### Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>, and <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

#### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

#### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff



**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

**FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate).

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

**INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

**SUPPORT AND RESOURCES**

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.