

Fall 2010
Linguistics 451(01): History of Linguistic Thought
Time: MWF 14:00–14:50
Location: MS 211

Instructor: Dr. Robert W. Murray
Office: SS 824
Office Hours: Wednesday 1500–1600 (and by appointment)
Telephone: 403 220-8109
e-mail: rwmurray@ucalgary.ca

Course Materials

- 1) Instructor Handouts (on Blackboard).
- 2) Readings (A selection of readings will be made available on Blackboard or via the web.)
- 3) Text: Robins, Robert Henry. 1997. *A short history of linguistics*. 4th edn. London/New York: Longman.

Course Description

A survey of major schools of linguistic thought. Focus on the origin and development of concepts central to contemporary linguistic theory.

Course Format and Focus

The course is divided into two complementary streams.

- (i) The lectures treat **theoretical attempts to describe and explain sound change**, beginning in the mid 19th century. We focus primarily on the following three sub-areas, and consider the strengths and weaknesses of each.
 - the neogrammarian approach
 - structuralist/generative perspectives, including Labovian sociolinguistics and Evolutionary Phonology
 - exemplar theoretic approaches
- (ii) The textbook presents a superficial overview of more or less the entire history of western linguistics. You are responsible for reading the textbook material, and a set of questions on two or three chapters will be on each test. We do not treat the textbook material directly in class, but you can always ask questions about the text in class or in the tutorials. Each review class can also deal with textbook topics. A study guide consisting of potential test questions is provided.

Tutorials

Given adequate demand, additional review tutorials will be organized prior to each test.

Grading

Four Tests (@ 15% each): 60% (early October; early&late November; December 10)

One Paper/Presentation: 40% (due final day of classes)

(The grade is based on the paper. However, up to 5% can be deducted for inadequate presentation materials.)

Grade Scale: 98%, A+; 95%, A; 90%, A-; 86%, B+; 80%, B; 75%, B-; 68%, C+; 62%, C; 58%, C-; 55%, D+; 50%, D; < 50%, F.

Paper

The paper should provide a fairly in-depth discussion of a particular approach (for example, American structuralism and sound change) or a particular topic from the perspective of at least two approaches (for example, neogrammarian change vs. lexical diffusion). It should include references to at least five items of scholarship not specifically discussed in class. The paper should be a maximum of 15 double spaced pages, and is due the final day of class. More details and sample topics will be provided in class.

Presentation

20 minutes plus 5 minutes for discussion. The final classes will be dedicated to the presentations.

The *Unified Style Sheet for Linguistics* and the *Style Sheet* of the Linguistic Society of America should be carefully followed when preparing any written work. This topic will be discussed in class and a simplified copy of the *Style Sheet* will be provided. A proper “handout” (electronic and/or hardcopy) is essential for presentations. The preparation of a presentation will also be discussed in class.

Fine Print

1. It is not possible to make up a missed Test. In the case of an excused absence from a Test, the item is not counted and the weighting is moved to the other tests. Valid excuses for Test absence are birth, death, and serious illness involving yourself or members of your immediate family on the day of the Test. All excuses must be substantiated by the appropriate documentation. An unexcused absence from a Test will result in a grade of zero for that item. There are no make-up Tests.
2. The prerequisites for this course are Linguistics 201 & 203 or equivalent. A student may not register in any linguistics course unless a grade of at least ‘C-’ has been achieved in all prerequisites for that course.

GENERAL COURSE/UNIVERSITY INFORMATION FOR ALL STUDENTS**LINGUISTICS STUDENT ADVISING**

For any questions regarding the linguistics major or minor, the organization of your program, or the selection of courses, you can see the linguistics under/graduate advisor/coordinator:

Dr. Robert Murray	SS 824	403-220-8109	ling_undergrad@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Steve Winters	SS 814	403-220-7230	ling_undergrad@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Suzanne Curtin	SS 842	403-220-3927	linggrad@ucalgary.ca

FACULTY of ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING and STUDENT INFORMATION

For questions about interdisciplinary programs, to see an Associate Dean, to inquire about COOP, or for general information, please visit the new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre located in Social Science, Room 110. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit us at the 4th Floor of MacEwan Student Centre.

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

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACT (FOIP)

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act was enacted by the Alberta Legislature on June 1, 1994. The Act is intended first of all to allow any person the right of access to the records in the custody and under the control of a public body although this right is subject to limited and specific exceptions. The Act also includes a strong right to privacy component, allowing individuals to control the manner in which a public body collects personal information, to control the use that a public body may make of the information, and to control the disclosure of that information by a public body. It also allows individuals the right of access to personal information about themselves held by a public body and the right to request corrections to that information.

For more information on FOIP, please visit: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>
Or contact Jo-Anne Munn Gafuik at (403) 220-3602 or by email: munnagafu@ucalgary.ca

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

1. the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
2. parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
3. the whole work (e.g. an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
4. a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Students are encouraged to work together in preparing homework assignments. However, unless

noted otherwise in writing, students must write up their own answers for submission of the assignment. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Possible penalties for plagiarism include; failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of plagiarism is also guilty of academic misconduct.

For more information on academic misconduct and related UofC regulations please consult the Student Misconduct web pages in the on-line University Calendar. These can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION / ASSEMBLY POINTS

The University of Calgary is committed to creating a safe and healthy living and learning environment. The health and safety of our employees, students and the general public are the highest priority of the University of Calgary's Emergency Management Program. During times of emergency, Assembly Points have been identified across campus. These areas have been selected as they are large enough to hold a significant number of people and will provide an evacuated population access to washroom facilities and protection from the elements. Assembly points are also designed to establish a location for information updates:

- from the emergency responders to the evacuees; and
- from the evacuated population to the emergency responders.

Please familiarize yourself with the Emergency Assembly Points listed here:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

And the Emergency Instructions listed here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/node/28>

SAFE WALK INFORMATION

Twenty four hours a day and seven days a week Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors.

Requesting Safewalk volunteers to walk with you is easy!

- Call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/seven days a week, 365 days a year)
- Use the Help Phones (they are not just for emergencies)
- Approach an on-duty Safewalker and request a walk

For more information call the Safewalk office at 403-220-4750 or email safewalk@ucalgary.ca.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

The Students' Union in partnership with the University of Calgary and the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) offers students a key advocacy resource to assist in addressing concerns and issues they encounter at the university with the Office of the Student Ombuds.

Students in undergraduate programs, please contact the Student's Union:

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Students in graduate programs, please contact the GSA: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>