



蘇州大學
Soochow University

LIN110 Introductory Linguistics

Summer 2023

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 55 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email:TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Linguistics is the scientific study of human language. This course will give students an overview of the main subsystems of language: the sound system, word and sentence structure, and meaning. It will also explore how language is used in communication, how it is learned, and how it changes over time. Examples will be drawn from different languages, but the course will be focused on English. The first half of this course will offer an overview of the main subfields of linguistic analysis: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics. This overview will form the foundation for the second part of the course, when students will explore how language has evolved, how language is acquired by children, and how language varies across space, social groups and time.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an awareness of the difference between prescriptive and descriptive approaches to language;
2. Describe the basic features of the language subsystems and show how they apply to English;
3. Apply the basic principles of language acquisition, variation and change to describe how English varies across time and space;
4. Analyse simple linguistic and sociolinguistic data;
5. Articulate the ideas behind both sides of some of the major debates within the field, for example nativism vs. usage-based theories.

PREREQUISITES



N/A

GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
Quizzes	40 Points
Midterm	25 Points
Final Exam	35 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$.

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

An Introduction to Language by Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., and Hyams, N., 11th Edition, Australia: Thomson/Wadsworth, 2018.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<p>Topics: Topic 1: What is language? Topic 2: Linguistics knowledge Topic 3: What is grammar? Topic 4: What is not language?</p> <p>Assessments: Quiz#1</p>



Module 2	Topics: Topic 5: Morphology: the words of language Topic 6: Content words and function words Topic 7: Morphemes Topic 8: Bound and free morphemes Assessments: Quiz#2
Module 3	Topics: Topic 9: Rules of word formation Topic 10: Morphological analysis: identifying morphemes Topic 11: Syntax: infinite use of finite Topic 12: What the syntax rules do? Assessments: Midterm Review and Question Session Midterm Quiz#3
Module 4	Topics: Topic 13: Sentence structure Topic 14: The internal structure of phrases Topic 15: Grammatical dependencies Topic 16: The meaning of language Assessments: Quiz#4
Module 5	Topics: Topic 17: What speakers know about sentence Topic 18: Compositional semantics Topic 19: When compositionality goes awry Topic 20: Lexical semantics Assessments: Final Exam

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning



and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.



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DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.