

**UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
RIO PIEDRAS CAMPUS
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

Instructor: Dr. Alicia Pousada

Course Title: Study of language

Course Number: INGL 4205

Number of Credit Hours: 3

Course Description: This is a basic introduction to linguistics, the scientific analysis of language. Topics to be covered include: basic notions of language, lexicon and morphology, phonetics, phonology, syntax, semantics, language change, and dialect variation.

Course Objectives:

- explain the basic characteristics of human language
- identify the major levels of linguistic structure (phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, discourse)
- analyze the morphological elements of words
- identify the articulatory organs and understand how they work
- learn the International Phonetic Alphabet and utilize it to transcribe utterances in English
- comprehend some of the phonological rules that govern English
- analyze the syntactic structure of sentences in English
- interpret the semantic value of words, sentences, and discourse in English
- be aware of the intrinsic variation in language and identify some of the varieties of English
- describe how languages change over time
- unify all of these understandings into a general awareness of and appreciation for the study of language as a field of study
- contribute in an effective form to the inclusion of fellow students with special needs in the classroom.
- make the necessary accommodations to include fellow students with special needs in group work.
- utilize the Internet to obtain information necessary to carry out class assignments
- participate in online discussions about language on the course blog

Course Outline:

Week	Dates	Topic & assignments
1	1/22	Introduction —introduction to course, what is linguistics
2	1/27, 1/29	Ch. 2—Morphology —words, morphemes, neologisms, inflectional and derivational morphemes, English and Spanish morphology in comparison
3-4	2/3 2/3, 2/5 2/10, 2/12	Quiz #1: Word morphology Ch. 3—Phonetics —representation of speech sounds using IPA, phones, allophones, phonemes—vowels and consonants
5-6	2/17 2/19 2/24, 2/26 2/26	No class—Washington’s Birthday Quiz #2: IPA symbols Ch. 4—Phonology —phonological rules of English, distinctive feature theory, phonotactics Assign. #1 due: Phonetics and phonology
7-8	3/3, 3/5 3/10, 3/12 3/12	Ch. 5—Syntax —background concepts, informal theory of syntax, early transformational generativism, devolution of phrase structure and transformational rules Assign. #2 due: Syntactic trees
9-10	3/17, 3/19 3/24, 3/26 3/26	Ch. 6—Semantics —theories of meaning, homophony, synonymy, antonymy, denotation, connotation, deictics and proper names, anaphora, co-reference Quiz #3: Semantics
11-12	3/31 4/2, 4/7, 4/9 4/9	Assignment #3 due: Semantics Ch. 7—Language variation —styles, dialects, varieties, British vs. American English, other Englishes Assign. #4 due: Language variation
13-14	4/14, 4/16 4/21 4/23	Ch. 8—Language change —reconstruction of IndoEuropean languages, history of English No class—De Diego Day Quiz #4: Language variation & change
15	4/28, 4/30 5/5 5/7	Appendix —Written language—effects of literacy, literacy campaigns Video Review for final exam
16	5/12	Last day of class-- Final exam (cumulative)

Teaching Strategies: Lecture, discussion, hands-on workshop.

Note: Those students who receive services from Vocational Rehabilitation should communicate with the professor at the beginning of the semester to plan the reasonable accommodation and the necessary equipment according to the recommendations of the Oficina de Asuntos para las Personas con Impedimento (OAPI) of the office of the Dean of Students. In addition, those students with special needs that require some type of assistance or accommodation should communicate with the professor.

Resources and Equipment Required:

Akmajian, A., Demers, R. A., Farmer, A. K., & Harnish, R. M. (2010). *Linguistics: An introduction to language and communication*, 6th ed. Cambridge, MA & London: The MIT Press.

Course website at: <http://ingl-4205.weebly.com/> . Password: 2014ingl4205

Methods of Evaluation:

Students will be required to complete the following tasks during the semester. The value assigned to each task is indicated.

1. Weekly readings from the assigned book and active participation in class and online blog discussions of these readings (25%)
2. Four quizzes (25%)
3. Four written assignments (25%)
4. Final exam (25%)

°Differentiated evaluation of students with special needs

Grading System: A, B, C, D, F

Bibliography: (sources utilized to prepare course)

Aitchison, J. (1999). *Teach yourself linguistics*, 5th ed. London: Hodder & Stoughton.

Baker, M. C. (2001). *The atoms of language*. New York: Basic Books.

Campbell, Lyle. (1999.) *Historical linguistics: An introduction*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Center for Applied Linguistics. (2006). Online resources. <http://www.cal.org/resources/update.html>. Last updated: March 07, 2006,

Coupland, N. & Jaworski, A. (1997). *Sociolinguistics: A reader*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Culicover, P. (1997). *Principles and parameters: An introduction to syntactic theory*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Elgin, Suzette H. (2000). *The language imperative*. Cambridge, MA: Perseus Publishing.

Farmer, A. K. & Demers, R. A. (2010). *Linguistics workbook: Companion to linguistics*, 6th. ed. Cambridge, MA & London: The MIT Press.

Finegan, E. (2003). *Language: Its structure and use*, 4th ed. Cengage Learning

Fromkin, V. & Rodman, R. (1993). *An introduction to language*. Fort Worth, TX: HBJ.

Geirsson, Heimir & Losonsky, Michael. (Eds.) (1996). *Readings in Language and mind*. London: Blackwell Publishers.

Jackendoff, R. (2002). *Foundations of language: Brain, meaning, grammar, evolution*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Katamba, F. (1993). *Morphology*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Macauley, R. (1994). *The social art: Language and its uses*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Manning, C. (2006). Linguistics, natural language, and computational linguistics meta-index. <http://nlp.stanford.edu/links/linguistics.html>. Last updated on: January 21, 2006.

O'Grady, W., Archibald, J, Aronoff, M, & Rees-Miller, J. (2000). *Contemporary linguistics: An introduction*. Bedford/St. Martin's, 4th ed.

Parker, F. & Riley, K. (2000). *Linguistics for non-linguists: A primer with exercises*, 3rd edition. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Pinker, S. (1994). *The language instinct: How the mind creates languages*. New York: William Morrow.

Pinker, S. (1998). *How the mind works*. University Press Audiobooks. [audio version of 1997 book published by W. W. Norton & Co.]

Pinker, S. (1999). *Words and rules: The ingredients of language*. New York: Basic Books.

Radford, A. (1997). *Syntax: A minimalist introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Robins, R. H. (1997). *A short history of linguistics, 4th edition*. London and New York: Longman.

Summer Institute of Linguistics. (2006). Linguistic Data Resources on the Internet <http://www.sil.org/linguistics/etext.html>. Accessed: March 13, 2006.

Torres, L. (2002). *Estrategias de intervención para la inclusión*. Río Piedras: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico

Torres, L. (2002). *Asistencia tecnológica derecho de todos*. Río Piedras: Editorial de la Universidad de Puerto Rico

Wolfram, W. & Schilling-Estes, N. (1998). *American English: Dialects and variation*. Malden, MA: Blackwell.