

## Linguistics 101 /Anthropology 110

Introduction to the Study of Language / Language, Culture and the Human Animal

Spring 2016: Tue, Thu 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Dane Smith Hall 227

**Instructor:** Ricardo de Souza

**Office hours:** by appointment

**Office:** Humanities 148/152

**Mailbox:** Humanities 526

**Email:** ricardodesouza@unm.edu

### Course Objectives

This course is a broad overview of the field of linguistics. At the end of the semester, you will have learned about the basic elements of linguistic analysis and how those can be used for a variety of purposes. With the background you will acquire, we will be able to discuss attitudes to language, the evolution of language and how it changes over time, the power dynamics behind the teaching and use of language varieties (e.g., 'good' vs. 'bad' English), how children acquire language and how adults acquire a second language, and so forth. This class focuses on spoken languages, but you will also learn about signed language, especially American Sign Language (ASL). Minority and endangered languages will also be discussed. The key aim of this course is to provide you with the tools to increase your awareness and understanding of language-related issues.

### Required Textbook

YULE, GEORGE. 2006. *The Study of Language* (Fifth Edition). New York: Cambridge University Press.

### Additional readings

Additional required readings will be posted on UNM Learn beforehand. Many of these will be chapters from *The Five-Minute Linguist*, which is also available for online reading through the Campus Libraries system [here](#).

### UNM Learn

Readings, assignments, quizzes, articles, etc. will be posted on [UNM Learn](#).

*(Log in to your 'My UNM' account. Click on 'UNM Learn' tab in the upper right-hand corner)*

## **Course Requirements**

- 13 Question submissions on the weekly readings - 30% (300 pts; lowest score will be dropped)
- 5 Quizzes - 20% (200 pts - 50 pts each; lowest score will be dropped)
- Homework & In-class exercises - 20% (200 pts)
- 3 Written assignments – 15% (150 pts)
- Midterm - 15% (150 pts)

*Total points: 1000*

## **Grading Scale**

A+	98-100%	B	83-87%	C-	70-72%
A	93-97%	B-	80-82%	D+	68-69%
A-	90-92%	C+	78-79%	D	63-67%
B+	88-89%	C	73-77%	D-	60-62%

Students are held accountable for all the material covered in the course. Exams and quiz content will be drawn directly from readings and in-class discussion.

## **Late Work Policy**

Late assignments will not be accepted. Exams and quizzes must be taken on the days they are scheduled. Exceptions to this policy will be granted only in the case of extenuating circumstances such as a medical emergency, with a doctor's note.

## **Attendance**

As a great deal of learning takes place in the classroom, regular attendance is key to success in this class. Attendance will be taken in the beginning of class throughout the semester. In-class worksheets that are completed during group activities will also be collected and serve as attendance records. Students who miss too many classes without due reason may be dropped from the course. Exceptions to this policy will be granted only in the case of extenuating circumstances such as a medical emergency, with a doctor's note.

## **Academic Honesty**

You are responsible for your own learning. Proper citing and scientific honesty form the basis of fruitful academic progression. Students are expected to practice honesty on all exams, quizzes, etc. Any student found to practice dishonesty, including all forms of plagiarism, will receive a failing grade.

## Questions on the Weekly Readings

Every week, students are required to submit **two questions** with regards to the readings specified in the syllabus for the **coming week** on UNM Learn. These must be specific enough to reflect your understanding of the chapter(s)/article(s) in question and not be so general as to give the impression you have not done a careful reading of the content. **Questions will be graded** based on their pertinence. Weekly submissions account for 30% of the final mark.

- The thread for questions will be available on the Thursday of every week and you will have until 7pm on the following Monday to post them.
- When there is more than one reading for a given week, your questions should refer to the entirety of the content for that week.
- You may draw from your own experience with language to formulate your questions, but those must also be informed by the concepts in the readings.
- Some of your questions will be replied individually at random, so make sure to check for answers once the grade is published!
- A rubric with suggestions of what constitutes appropriate questions will be available on UNM Learn. Please use it as a guideline when proposing your questions.
- Writing conventions are to be followed when proposing questions, such as appropriate use of punctuation, citation formatting and correct spelling.

## Quizzes

There will be **FIVE** quizzes posted on UNM Learn throughout the semester. These will be taken **outside of class-time**. The quizzes are based on the readings and class discussions and are meant to help you understand and relate the concepts seen in class to linguistic problems.

- Quizzes will be posted on Thursdays and students will have until the following Monday 7pm to answer them.
- Each student must submit their own quiz; however, you are allowed and encouraged to work together on quizzes. Quizzes are **open-book**.

## Homework and In-class Exercises

From time to time you will be asked to work on specific questions pertaining to the topics we discuss. This can take the form of an assignment to be done at home or an in-class activity. Students who are absent on a day when an in-class exercise is proposed or when homework is due cannot get credit for the missed activity. However, exceptions might be granted in the case of extenuating circumstances (see Late Work Policy above).

## **Written Assignments (Papers)**

There will be three written assignments over the course of the semester. These papers entail concise analyses of an assigned article or chapter of a book and will take the form of essay questions. Papers are to be submitted in hard copies in person the day they are due. Tips for successful academic writing can be found here: [Purdue Online Writing Lab \(OWL\)](#).

## **Extra Credit**

One main extra credit opportunity will be offered over the course of the semester. An extra credit award accounts for 10% of the total course grade (100 points). The extra credit assignment will be based on selected readings or consist of a number of exercises. More information will be added as it becomes available.

## **Resources**

The Center for Academic Program Support (CAPS) offers linguistic tutoring at **no additional cost**. CAPS is located on the third floor of Zimmerman Library. Please visit [their website](#) for more information.

## **Lobo Achieve**

Lobo Achieve is a student tracking and support system UNM uses to provide a holistic approach to student success and retention. It lets the student and their advisor know when there is an attendance or grade problem but it can also be used to give praise to outstanding performance. Students who miss too many classes or assignments may be notified via Lobo Achieve.

## **Open Channels of Communication**

I am here to help! Please don't hesitate to contact me if you ever have doubts or concerns about your academic progression. I will always try and work with you to find the most reasonable solution for a given problem. My preferred method of communication is via email ([ricardodesouza@unm.edu](mailto:ricardodesouza@unm.edu)). Please note that proper greetings and writing conventions are much appreciated! You can check [this webpage](#) for tips on effective email writing.

## **Accommodations**

**Accessibility Services** (Mesa Vista Hall 2021, 277-3506) provides academic support to students who have disabilities. If you think you need alternative accessible formats for undertaking and completing coursework, you should contact this office right away to assure your needs are met in a timely manner. If you need local assistance in contacting Accessibility Services, see the Linguistics Department office or your instructor.

## References for Additional Required Readings

- ARONOFF, MARK AND KIRSTEN ANNE FUEDEMAN. 2005. Morphology and Morphological Analysis. In M. Aronoff & K. A. Fuderman. *What Is Morphology?* Malden, MA: Blackwell, pp. 1-27.
- BILLS, GARLAND D. AND NEDDY A. VIGIL. 2008. Retentions: The peninsular origins of New Mexican Spanish. In Bills & Garland. *The Spanish language of New Mexico and Southern Colorado: A linguistic atlas*. Albuquerque: UNM Press, pp. 51-74.
- BYBEE, JOAN. 2015. The study of language change. In Bybee, J. *Language Change*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-14.
- DAVIS, IRVINE. 1979. The Kiowa-Tanoan, Keresan, and Zuni languages. In: Campbell, Lyle and Marianne Mithun (Eds). *The Languages of Native America*. University of Texas Press, pp. 390-443.
- FISHMAN, JOSHUA. 1996. What do you lose when you lose your language? In G. Cantoni (Ed.), *Stabilizing Indigenous Languages*, 72-81. Flagstaff: Center for Excellence in Education, Northern Arizona University.
- GORDON, MATTHEW. 2014. Phonetics: physical dimensions of speech sounds. In Genetti, Carol (ed.). *How languages work: an introduction to language and linguistics*. New York: Cambridge University Press, pp. 33-40.
- GROSJEAN, FRANÇOIS. 1996. Living with two languages and two cultures. In Parasnis, I. (Ed.). *Cultural and Language Diversity and the Deaf Experience*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 20-37.
- HOLMES, JANET. 1998. Women talk too much. In Bauer & Trudgill (Eds.). *Language Myths*. London: Penguin Books, pp. 41-49.
- LIPPI-GREEN, ROSINA. 1997. Language Subordination. In Lippi-Green, R. *English with an accent: Language, ideology, and discrimination in the United States*. New York: Routledge, pp. 66-74.
- MIHALIČEK, VEDRANA, & WILSON, CHRISTIN. 2011. *Language files: Materials for an introduction to language and linguistics* (11th ed.). Columbus: Ohio State University Press.
- MITHUN, MARIANNE. 1999. Introduction. In Mithun, M. *The Languages of Native North America*. New York: Cambridge University Press, pp. 15-35.
- MITHUN, MARIANNE. 2004. The Value of Linguistic Diversity: Viewing Other Worlds through North American Indian Languages. In Duranti, Alessandro. *A Companion to Linguistic Anthropology*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, pp. 121-140.
- RICKERSON, E. M. AND BARRY HILTON (Eds.). 2006. *The Five-Minute Linguist: Bite-sized Essays on Language and Languages*. London: Equinox.

**Tentative Course Schedule** - Schedule and readings are subject to change*(Please make sure to check the online version for updates)*

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Quizzes, etc</b>
<b>1</b>	Tue 01/19	Introduction – What is linguistics?	no readings	
	Thu 01/21	Introduction – What linguists do	<i>5minLing</i> - Ch. 1	
<b>2</b>	Tue 01/26	What is language?	Yule 2006 – Ch. 2	
	Thu 01/28		<i>5minLing</i> – Ch. 2 & Ch. 3	<b>Q #1*</b>
<b>3</b>	Tue 02/02	The sounds of language	Yule 2006 – Ch. 3	
	Thu 02/04		Gordon 2014 – part I	
<b>4</b>	Tue 02/09	The sounds of language (cont.)	Gordon 2014 – part II	
	Thu 02/11	Languages and writing systems	<i>5minLing</i> – Ch. 9 & Ch. 10	<b>Q #2</b>
<b>5</b>	Tue 02/16	What’s in a word? - Morphology	Yule 2006 – Ch. 5	
	Thu 02/18		Aronoff & Fuderman 2005 – Ch.1	
<b>6</b>	Tue 02/23	First language acquisition	Yule 2006 – Ch. 13	
	Thu 02/25		<i>5minLing</i> – Ch. 22	<b>Q #3</b>
<b>7</b>	Tue 03/01	Second language learning	Yule 2006 – Ch. 14	
	Thu 03/03	Bilingualism & Biculturalism	Grosjean 1996	
<b>8</b>	Tue 03/08	Review		<b>Paper#1 due</b>
	Thu 03/10	MIDTERM		
<b>9</b>	Tue 03/15	<b><i>Spring break</i></b>	<i>no classes</i>	
	Thu 03/17			
<b>10</b>	Tue 03/22	Signed languages	Yule 2006 – Ch. 15	
	Thu 03/24		<i>5minLing</i> – Ch. 23	<b>Q#4</b>
<b>11</b>	Tue 03/29	Native languages of N America, Language endangerment and loss	Mithun 1999	
	Thu 03/31		Fishman 1996	
<b>12</b>	Tue 04/05	Language in society	Yule 2006 – Ch. 19	
	Thu 04/07		Holmes 1998	<b>Paper#2 due</b>
<b>13</b>	Tue 04/12	Language in society (cont.)	Lippi-Green 1997	
	Thu 04/14	All languages change	Bybee 2015	
<b>14</b>	Tue 04/19	All languages change (cont.)	Yule 2006 – Ch. 17	
	Thu 04/21		<i>5minLing</i> – Ch. 7 & Ch. 11	<b>Q#5</b>
<b>15</b>	Tue 04/26	Languages of New Mexico	Davis 1979	
	Thu 04/28		Bills & Vigil 2008	
<b>16</b>	Tue 05/03	The value of linguistic diversity	Mithun 2004	
	Thu 05/05	Concluding remarks		<b>Paper#3 due</b>

\* Quiz dates indicate day when quizzes will be posted on UNM Learn