LINGUISTICS 102  INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE WI  
Credits: 3  
MTuWTh 8:30-10:05 Akoakoa 102  

INSTRUCTOR: Laurie Tomchak, Ph. D  
OFFICE: Hale Na’auao 133  
OFFICE HOURS: MTuWTh 10:15-11:15  
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WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT  

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai‘i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide O‘ahu’s Ko‘olau region and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION  

An investigation of the nature and function of language, its sounds, structures and semantics, oral and written expression, acquisition and change. General linguistic principles applicable to all languages will be covered. We will learn ways of talking about language that will enable us to discuss language and understand what linguists do and say. (3 hours lecture)

Pre-Requisite(s): Credit for ENG 22 or higher or consent of instructor.

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times  

Students may be required to interview speakers of languages other than English, or do field research outside of class.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES  

The student learning outcomes for the course are:

1. Examine and appreciate human language.
2. Articulate an appreciation of human languages and how they work.
3. Articulate the diversity of communication systems in daily life.
4. Examine and assess ones own language beliefs and capabilities.

COURSE CONTENT
Concepts or Topics, corresponding to chapters of Language Files #11.

Students will be required to show knowledge of these concepts in discussion, by doing the practical exercises in Language Files, and by writing short and longer essays and presenting them in class.

1. What language is (and is not)

2. Phonetics and Phonology (the basic sounds in English and other languages, how they are represented in the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

3. Morphology (how sounds are combined to form words)

4. Syntax (how words and phrases are combined into sentences)

5. Semantics (what and how words mean)

6. Pragmatics (how people use language in context and conversation)

7. Acquisition (how people learn their first and subsequent languages)

8. Storage and Processing (how we remember and store words and how we produce speech)

9. Variation (why languages vary according to geography, gender, age, economic status, ethnicity, etc.)

10. Language and Culture (linguistic anthropology)

11. Contact (cross-pollination, pidgins, creoles, borrowings)

12. Animal Communication (Meow, Woof, Polly Want a Cracker)

13. Writing systems (and how they relate to speech)

14. Computer Language (Voice Recognition, Google Translate)

15. Practical Applications (Forensics, Code-Breaking, Speech Pathology, Audiology, Language Education)

COURSE TASKS

Students will do practical exercises relating to each topic, and write short essays on topics set by the instructor. They will also do one longer essay, which they will submit in draft form and after conference with the instructor, they will revise it and present it in class. There will be a written midterm and final, and a language journal.

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

Distribution of grading:

30%: Daily practical exercises, essays and language journal
30%: Written Midterm and Final
40%: Essay and Presentation
LEARNING RESOURCES


Schedule (subject to change)
Week 1: May 21-24: What language is and is not, Phonetics and Phonology
Week 2: May 29-31: Morphology and Syntax, Semantics (Memorial Day May 28)
Week 3: June 4-6: Pragmatics, Language Acquisition, Storage
Midterm June 7
Week 4: June 11-14: Variation, Culture, Change
Week 5: June 18-21: Writing systems, Animal Communication
Week 6: June 25-27: Computers, Practical Applications
Final: June 28

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann Lemke can be reached at 235-7448, lemke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale 'Akoakoa 213 for more information.

Revised May 25, 2011