

# Introduction to Linguistics

## Syllabus for LING 201

### Fall 2011

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Eastern Michigan University

October 4, 2011

#### General

- Professor: Dr. Damir Cavar
- Office: PRAY-H 613D
- Office Hours: Monday 4:00–5:00 PM & 7:45–9:00 PM; Wednesday 4:00–6:30 PM
- Web: <http://www.cavar.me/damir/ling201-11/>
- Email: [dcavar1@emich.edu](mailto:dcavar1@emich.edu)
- Class Meets: Monday 5:00–7:45 PM

#### Prerequisites

- None

#### Required Textbook

- Adrian Akmajian, Richard A. Demers, Ann K. Farmer, Robert M. Harnish (2010) Linguistics: An Introduction to Language and Communication. The MIT Press. 6<sup>th</sup> edition.  
ISBN-10: 0262513706  
ISBN-13: 978-0262513708  
Google books

## Optional Text- or Workbooks

- Ann K. Farmer, Richard A. Demers (2010) A Linguistics Workbook: Companion to Linguistics. The MIT Press. 6<sup>th</sup> Edition.  
ISBN-10: 0262514826  
ISBN-13: 978-0262514828

## Ethics

The atmosphere in this course should promote the free exchange of information and aid.

Students are encouraged to seek help from the instructor, and fellow students regarding concepts, examples, and problems that are not to be submitted for a grade.

**The Honor Code applies to all graded work, in particular to the required homework problems.**

All work submitted for a grade must be the student's own work.

## Announcement

If any student needs special accommodations because of a disability, please contact the instructor during the first week of classes.

## Distribution and Access

The administration of this course emphasizes electronic distribution of materials and electronic interaction among all participants. We will use an openly available web page, and optionally Google Docs and Dropbox for the distribution of course material. Submission of assignments and communication is possible via email or in person during office hours.

All handouts, including assignments and their solutions, will be made available in the shared Google Docs and Dropbox folder, or via email.

## Homework Assignments

There are 10 homework assignments, always due on the next session or as specified during class. All homework assignments must be submitted electronically (exact procedures will be described in the assignments). Your homework solutions will be submitted in PDF format via email (or alternatively EMUOnline).

Each assignment consists of a summary and discussion of *suggested* problems discussed on the previous sessions. Every student should prepare questions on the basis of the assignments or the preceding session, and the book chapter currently discussed in class. It

is required that you read every chapter in the textbook before class, as specified by the instructors.

Solutions to all *required* homework problems will be distributed and posted electronically after the last deadline for submission has passed (typically, the subsequent session; see Grading Policy). Individual comments and corrections will be included in the electronic submission and returned after discussion of the assignments.

## Grading Policy

Grading for the course is on a % scale, with the following ratio:

<b>Assignments</b>	30%
<b>Mid-term exam</b>	30%
<b>Final exam</b>	40%

There will be 10 homework assignments. Homework assignment will be discussed in the following session or on the specified due date. **Homework assignment turned in after due date will not be accepted. After the drop box is closed, there is no assignment submission possible.**

There will be a mid-term exam and a final exam. Both exams together make 70% of the grading ratio. Only topics discussed in class will be the basis for exam questions. The discussed material, i. e. the course slides will be available in PDF format two weeks before the exam. The final exam covers all the discussed topics of the semester.

If you have questions about the way an assignment was graded, you should consult the instructor.

Class attendance is obligatory! Missing more than two classes without informing the instructor in advance, and without good reason will result in an E.

## Lectures

The following lecture schedule defines in greater detail what material is covered in the course and when it is covered.

### Lecture Schedule

The course aims to cover the following topics in the given order:

- Introduction
- Morphology: The Study of the Structure of Words
- Phonetics and Phonemic Transcription

- Phonology: The Study of Sound Structure
- Syntax: The Study of Sentence Structure
- Semantics: The Study of Linguistic Meaning
- Language Variation
- Language Change
- Pragmatics: The Study of Language Use and Communication
- Psychology of Language: Speech Production and Comprehension
- Language Acquisition
- Language and the Brain

## References

Adrian Akmajian, Richard A. Demers, Ann K. Farmer, and Robert M. Harnish. *Linguistics: An Introduction to Language and Communication*. The MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, sixth edition, 2010. ISBN 978-0262513708.

Ann K. Farmer and Richard A. Demers. *A Linguistics Workbook: Companion to Linguistics*. The MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, sixth edition, 2010. ISBN 978-0262514828.

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