

## LINGUISTICS Fall 2022

### Language

**LING-UA 1-001**

**Professor Juliet Stanton**

**T/R 12:30PM - 1:45PM**

**Satisfies Introductory course requirement and the Societies and Social Science component of the College Core Curriculum**

This course is an introductory survey of linguistics—the scientific study of language. Language is a social phenomenon, but all human languages share many specific structural properties. Analyzing data from English and many other languages, we examine some fundamental properties of the structure and interpretation of words and sentences, and the sound system. Building on these foundations, we discuss the brain representation, processing and acquisition of language, language change, dialects and sociolects, and Signed Languages. The course will provide you with the necessary background to continue your studies in linguistics at a more advanced level if you choose to. It satisfies the Introductory Course requirement for Linguistics major, its combined majors, and the Language and Mind major, and is a prerequisite for some of our other courses. Language is a CORE exemptor for CAS students; it satisfies the Societies and Social Sciences course requirement.

### Language & Mind

**LING-UA 3-001/PSYCH-UA 27-001 Professors Ailís Cournane & Brian McElree M/W 12:30PM - 1:45PM**

**Satisfies Introductory course requirement**

This course deals with what our knowledge of language can tell us about the nature of the mind, and vice versa. It is offered jointly by Psychology and Linguistics, presenting methodology and results from both fields. It is well known that language is a social phenomenon; this course will focus on some aspects of language that make its study more like a natural science. We discuss the structure of sentences (syntax), words (morphology), and sound shape (phonetics, phonology), and ask how these are acquired, mentally represented, and processed by humans.

### Introduction to Semantics

**LING-UA 4-001**

**Professor Chris Barker**

**T/R 12:30PM – 1:45PM**

**PREREQUISITE: LING-UA 1 OR LING-UA 3 OR LING-UA 13**

**Satisfies Semantics requirement**

This course is an introduction to the study of meaning, more specifically, the meaning of expressions and sentences in natural languages like English. What sort of things could meanings be? How do the meanings of words differ from the meanings of larger phrases? What is the role of context in enriching the meaning conveyed by a sentence? What is the difference between what is explicitly said versus what is merely implied? What is the difference between literal meaning and metaphorical meaning? The approach will be formal and scientific, using the methods of theoretical linguistics. Our main goal will be to propose explicit and precise hypotheses about how the meanings of phrases are determined by the meanings of the words that they contain, and to test these hypotheses by comparing the predictions that they make with what various phrases actually mean.

**Sound and Language****LING-UA 11-001****Professor Lisa Davidson****TBD****Satisfies Phonetics requirement**

This course offers an introduction to the sounds of the world's languages, how they are produced and how they are organized as basic units of linguistic representation. Topics include basic phonetic and phonological theory, the description and analysis of speech sounds, the anatomy, physiology, and acoustical properties of speech sounds, elements of speech perception, and the properties of connected speech. Students develop skills to distinguish and produce the sounds of human languages and to transcribe them using the International Phonetic Alphabet.

**Grammatical Analysis****LING-UA 13-001****Professor Stephanie Harves****M/W 9:30AM – 10:45AM****PREREQUISITE: LING-UA 1 OR LING-UA 3 OR Permission of the Instructor****Satisfies Syntax requirement**

What determines the sequencing of words in a given language? How can we explain word order variation within and across languages? Are there universal syntactic properties common to the grammar of all languages? This course presents the motivation for the modern generative approach to the scientific study of language and systematically develops a model that will account for the most basic syntactic constructions of natural language. Skills in scientific argumentation and reasoning are developed primarily through an analysis of English, but occasionally of other languages as well.

**Language and Society****LING-UA 15-001****Professor Laurel MacKenzie****T/R 9:30AM – 10:45AM****Satisfies Sociolinguistics requirement and the Societies and Social Science component of the College Core Curriculum**

Language is the medium of social interaction, and is tailored and manipulated for social purposes. Consequently, a language is not uniform, but rather reflects all the diversity of its users: language varies by region, class, gender, ethnicity, and age, and language is adapted by speakers to construct social identities and to accommodate different listeners and situations. This course explores contemporary issues in the social organization and significance of language. Topics include how language correlates with sociodemographic factors, language change, language attitudes, language contact and multilingualism, language policy and planning, and language in education.

**Grammatical Analysis II****LING-UA 16-001****Professors Stephanie Harves & Richard Kayne****M/W 12:30PM – 1:45PM****PREREQUISITE: LING-UA 13**

This course is a continuation of Grammatical Analysis and offers an in depth examination of various topics in syntax. Topics vary from year to year, depending on students' interests, but may include an in depth look at argument structure alternations, Case theory, Binding theory, Wh-movement, and Island constraints, among other topics. Students will be introduced to primary literature in syntactic theory in order to further develop their critical reading and writing skills so that they may carry out an independent research project of their own.

### **Bilingualism**

**LING-UA 18-001**

**Professor Zvezdana Vrzić**

**M/W 4:55PM - 6:10PM**

Most people in the world today grow up speaking multiple languages. In this class, students will be introduced to a variety of linguistic and social issues that are raised by the phenomenon of multilingualism. Among other topics, we will read about and discuss different multilingual communities to discover the ways in which people use multiple languages in their daily lives; policies that exist in societies with multilingual populations; differences in growing up learning one and two or more native languages; changes that happen in a language as it comes under the influence of another language; reasons why people in traditionally bilingual communities can shift away from using one of their languages. We will also investigate what the study of these and other phenomena tied to multilingualism can tell us more generally about language and about community and identity.

### **Morphology**

**LING-UA 29-001**

**Professor Maria Gouskova**

**T/R 11:00AM – 12:15PM**

**PREREQUISITE: LING-UA 1**

This course introduces linguistic morphology. We will study the rules for composing words and sentences from the smallest units of linguistic combination -- the "morphemes." Why can the same message be expressed in one word in some languages but requires an entire sentence in others? Why do the shapes of prefixes, suffixes and roots change depending on their semantic and phonological context? What rules do different languages use for forming new words?

### **The Syntax/Semantics Interface Cross-Linguistically**

**LING-UA 37-001**

**Professor Anna Szabolcsi**

**M/W 2:00PM – 3:15PM**

**PREREQUISITE: LING-UA 13, OR Permission of the Instructor. LING-UA 4 is recommended but not required.**

In many languages of the world, the topic and the focus of the sentence, the scope relations among quantifiers and negation, and the role of the speaker and addressee are made transparent by word order and various suffixes on the verb. They are integral parts of the grammar. We study data from languages from Hungarian to Kathmandu Newari from the perspective of theoretical linguistics and ask what they tell us about how the syntax/semantics interface works in universal grammar.

### **Field Methods**

**LING-UA 44-001/LING-GA 44-001 Professors Chris Collins & Gillian Gallagher M/W 9:30AM - 10:45AM**

**PREREQUISITE: LING-UA 11 AND LING-UA 13 OR Permission of the Instructor**

Field Methods is a hands-on approach to learning linguistics. Every year, a different language is chosen to investigate. Students interview a native speaker of an unfamiliar language, usually a nonlinguist, to study all aspects of the language's grammar: phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. They learn to evaluate and organize real, non-idealized linguistic data and to formulate generalizations, which then serve as the basis for a research paper. This course is a unique opportunity to obtain a rich set of data on a new topic of theoretical interest in any field of linguistics.

### **Linguistics as Cognitive Science**

**LING-UA 48-001/PSYCH-UA 48-001/LING-GA 48-001 Professor Alec Marantz M/W 11:00AM – 12:15PM**

This course examines the place of Linguistics within Cognitive Science from multiple perspectives. Foundational questions for a science of linguistics will be addressed both from within linguistics and from philosophy and psychology. Issues include the nature of the evidence for constructing grammars, the interpretation of grammatical rules as cognitive or neural operations, the significance of neo-behaviorist approaches to language and computational modeling for a cognitive theory of language, the connection between linguistic theory and genetics, and the importance of socio-cultural and historical variation for understanding the nature of language. Students will be expected to engage in debate over these issues bringing to the table their own background in one of the relevant disciplines as well what they learn from the assigned readings. The primary instructor will be joined for several of the lectures by guest speakers with complementary expertise.