LING 1: The Study of Language

3 Credits

A non-technical introduction to the study of human language, and its role in human interaction. Students who have successfully completed LING 100 may not enroll in LING 001. LING 001 LING 001 The Study of Language (3) (GS;US;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. LING 001 examines the nature of human language and its links to human culture. A major focus of this course is on examining how languages are structured, how all languages are similar, how they differ, and how a language affects and is affected by the culture of its speakers and the sociopolitical context in which it is situated. The course begins by discussing the essential characteristics of every human language. It ends by examining the factors that have put languages at risk throughout history and what is causing them to become increasingly endangered. The course examines such issues as: speakers attitudes toward language through an examination of phenomena close to home, like African American Vernacular English and various regional accents, how shared Linguistic practices create unity (South Africa, The Americas, Asia), what role languages play in maintaining difference and, indeed signaling socio-political diversity (Serbian versus Croatian, Hebrew, Yiddish, Afrikaans, Taiwanese, The Linguistic Geography of Africa), and how language reflects human origins, migrations, and history.

LING 001 is a core course for the minor in Linguistics and it may also be used for the General Education requirement in Social/Behavioral Science, for a B.A. Social/Behavioral Science requirement, for the General Education Intercultural/International Competence requirement. The course is offered two times a year. It meets three hours per week and the total enrollment each semester is limited to 75 students. Assessment is based on two examinations, five problem assignments that require short essays (around 2 pages), one problem assignment that requires a more extended analytical essay (around 4-5 pages), and participation in class and group discussions.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

LING 97: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 98: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 100: Foundations of Linguistics

3 Credits

Systematic study of linguistic structures in a variety of the world's languages; an overview of language, and its organization. LING 100 Foundations of Linguistics (3) (GS)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. Linguistics is, broadly, the scientific study of language. At the heart of linguistics is the search for the unconscious knowledge that humans have about language(s), an understanding of the structure of language, and knowledge about how languages differ from each other. Speakers of all languages know a great deal about their language, usually without knowing that they possess such knowledge. For example, a speaker of American English possesses knowledge about word order: s/he understands that &quot;Sarah admires the teacher&quot; is grammatical, while &quot;Admires Sarah teacher&quot; is not, and also that &quot;The teacher admires Sarah&quot; means something entirely different. A speaker knows that when someone asks a &quot;yes-no question&quot; s/he typically reverses the order of words at the beginning of the sentence and that the voice goes up at the end of the sentence, as, for example, in &quot;Are you going&quot;? Speakers also possess knowledge about the sounds of their language, e.g. which consonants can go together in a word. For example, speakers know that &quot;slint&quot; could be an English word, while &quot;sbint&quot; or &quot;srnt&quot; could not. In addition, speakers know the rules of language use, such as when to issue a command (Get me a glass of water?) and when to ask a question (Could I have a glass of water, please?) Furthermore, they recognize dialects which are different from their own, and they can recognize earlier stages of their own language, as in a Shakesperian quotation, or a liturgical formula. This course equips students with the tools to investigate these aspects of language and language use. As a scientific discipline, linguistics employs strict methodologies to approach issues like the ones above. Students learn to transcribe speech phonetically, then to analyze the raw data into phonological statements about the sound system of languages. Likewise in word structure, students are equipped with the tools to segment words into their significant parts (called morphemes), which reveals interesting facts about how words are stored in memory. Through the study of syntax students learn about the unimaginable complexity of syntactic rules, and are taught the basics of how to unravel the mysteries of sentence structure. And when the whole complex of sounds, words and sentences is put together, rules of meaning are brought to bear, and the sentence is assigned a semantic reading. How this happens is discussed in the section on semantics. Linguistics 100 introduces these topics and provides enough information for students to understand the basics of the discipline.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

LING 102: Introduction to Historical Linguistics

3 Credits

How languages change and evolve over time; language families; effects of borrowing and language contact. LING 102 Introduction to Historical Linguistics (3) (GH)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. Introduction to Historical Linguistics is designed to introduce the basic theories, methods, and data linguists used to study ancient languages and the connections between seemingly diverse peoples and cultures. The diversity of human language has been a topic of speculation since ancient times, popularly accounted for by similar
stories and legends across cultures and religions. The course will survey these ideas and combine them with the major trends of philological thinking from antiquity to the present day. An important aspect of this course is in reviewing the philological record to examine the importance, and at times even sacredness, of the written word to various cultures. The course reviews in particular the works of the Greek, Latin and Sanskrit scholars, the anonymous Icelandic grammarian, and the influential work of the 19th century European philologists. It also examines how spoken language, in particular, leads us to an understanding of how different societies can be linked a common source for their language.

Prerequisite: LING 010 or LING 100
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
General Education: Humanities (GH)
LING 198: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 199: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
LING 294: Research Project
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 299: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
LING 394: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 395: Internship
1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18
Supervised off-campus, nongroup instruction including field experiences, practica, or internships. Written and oral critique of activity required.

Prerequisite: prior approval of proposed assignment by instructor
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 399: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 429: Language and Thought
3 Credits

Relations between language and cognition; cognitive implications of normal and impaired language development; cognition and bilingualism. LING (PSYCH 426) 429 Language and Thought (3) (BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. Is language a special and uniquely human ability that develops and functions independently of other cognitive processes? Do individuals who speak different languages also have different concepts about the meaning of objects and ideas? Does language development depend on exposure to spoken language? In this course we will examine the relation between language and thought by considering evidence on language and cognition in both children and adults. Topics to be covered include the typical development and use of language as well as language and cognition in individuals whose language and/or cognition is impaired in some form. The latter include individuals with aphasia who have sustained brain damage following stroke or head injury, schizophrenics whose language reflects aspects of their disorder, children diagnosed with Williams Syndrome who appear to have good or even precocious language abilities in the face of severe cognitive impairment, and Alzheimer’s patients in whom semantic memory has begun to deteriorate. The course will also discuss the acquisition of sign language among deaf individuals and the consequences of bilingualism for children raised with two languages and for adults with proficiency in more than a single language. The purpose of this course is to provide a survey of current scholarship on the relation of language and thought, including a review of recent
developments in the primary literature. The necessary background is covered in introductory Psychology and Linguistics courses, which serve as alternative prerequisites. Students will learn about the consequences of typical and impaired development for relations between cognition and language ability. It is distinguished from PSYCH 457, Psychology of Language, by a focus on the implications of language, language development, and language impairment, for cognitive processes. It covers some topics also addressed by current courses in Linguistics and in Communications Sciences and Disorders, but is distinguished from those courses by its focus on perspectives and theories from cognitive psychology. This course may be used toward the 400-level PSY requirements of the PSYBA and PSYBS majors, and toward the PSY minor. Students typically will be assessed on the basis of class participation and discussion (20%), four papers (total 60%), and an in-class presentation based on reading original research literature (20%). The course typically will be offered once each year at the University Park campus with an enrollment limit of 50.

**Prerequisite:** PSYCH100, LING 001, or LING 100

Cross-listed with: PSYCH 426

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 446: L1 Acquisition

3 Credits

How children learn their first language; psycholinguistic aspects of lexical, syntactic, semantic, and phonological development. LING 446 (PSYCH 427) L1 Acquisition (3) (BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course focuses on how children learn their first language from the theoretical perspectives of imitation theories, social construction theories, and innateness theories. In addition, the course covers the various stages of language acquisition including phonological (sound system), morphological (word meaning), syntactical (grammar) and semantic (meaning) development from birth to adulthood. Other related subfields covered in the course include the acquisition of Pidgin and Creole languages, bilingual and multilingual acquisition, and language acquisition and linguistic change.

**Prerequisite:** LING 100 or PSYCH002 or permission of program

Cross-listed with: PSYCH 427

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 447: Bilingualism

3 Credits

Explores the social and psychological aspects of bilingualism; topics include languages in contact, transference, maintenance, and loss. LING 447 Bilingualism (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course presents a panoramic view of the major questions, research methods and results in bilingualism research. We will cover the following topics, in addition to those topics that emerge from students’ research: bilingualism in society; political and social results of language contact; effects of social attitudes on bilingualism; how bilingualism affect language: transfer, code-switch, language contact and language change; the bilingual brain, psycholinguistic effects of having two grammars in sentence production, phonological perception and lexical storage; childhood bilingualism; developmental and educational consequences of bilingualism.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 448: Sociolinguistics

3 Credits

Issues in the study of language in its sociocultural context; analysis of social dialects and speech styles. LING 448 Sociolinguistics (3) (BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course investigates sociolinguistics variation and linguistic change. We will be concerned with identifying the mechanisms by which changes come about and are transmitted within a linguistic system. The course contrasts traditional studies of change and variation which concentrate on linguistic internal factors to those that are based on sociolinguistic factors. Research from a wide variety of languages and cultures will be examined.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 449: Semantics I

3 Credits

The study of meaning in human language; methods of analysis; study of sense, reference, compositionality, quantification, presupposition, and sentence-level meaning. LING 449 Semantics I (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course examines our best understanding of how humans produce and understand utterances to have particular meanings. This course examines lexical semantics, which is concerned with word meaning, phrasal semantics, which examines phrase meanings and with pragmatics, the study of meaning in contexts. Because meanings cannot always be built up or deduced from the combined meaning of smaller elements, students will attempt to divulge the semantic principles at work in human language through a wide variety of problems and activities.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 457: Psychology of Language

3 Credits

Overview of psychological research and theory on language processes, including speech perception, word recognition, meaning representation, comprehension, and language acquisition. LING (PSYCH) 457 Psychology of Language (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. How do we process language? Why do we easily adjust to a speaker with a foreign accent? How do young children come to speak the language to which they are exposed? Why is it difficult to learn a second language as an adult? This course focuses on the cognitive processes engaged by language use. Topics to be covered include speech perception, word recognition, representation of word meaning, comprehension of sentences, spoken production of words and sentences, and first and second language acquisition. In addition, the role of language in the study of thought and the role of biological mechanisms in theories of language learning will be discussed, as well as ways in which research on the language of special populations (e.g., deaf signers, dyslexics, aphasics) can inform theories of language processing and representation.

**Prerequisite:** PSYCH100 or LING 100

Cross-listed with: PSYCH 457

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 493: Field Methods

3 Credits

Primary linguistic investigation of a language different from English; field work with a native speaker; data gathering; linguistic analysis. LING 493 Field Methods (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. In this course, students work directly (in groups) with a native speaker of a foreign language with which no one in the class has any prior familiarity. The students will work to uncover the set of sounds relevant to the language in question by winnowing down possible sound contrasts made in human languages. They will begin to construct a lexicon (vocabulary) built with a phonetic alphabet to discover how words are formed in the language. They will refine their techniques of questioning their research participant based on principles of linguistic field work. Finally, groups will present their findings for discussion and revision.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 494: Research Project

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 494H: Research Project

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Honors

LING 496: Independent Studies

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 497: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 498: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 499: Foreign Studies

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)