

# LING 3340 (section 001): Grammar & Morphology

Spring 2010 (Class #21484)

Mondays and Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:20 PM

Trimble Hall 218

<http://ling.uta.edu/~josh/>

**Instructor:** Joshua Jensen

email: [jjensen@uta.edu](mailto:jjensen@uta.edu)

phone: 817-522-4383 (*call if you are going to miss – or be late for – an appointment*)

office: 217-C Trimble Hall (*I'm often in the Linguistics Lab, 014 TH, during my office hour*)

office hours: W 6:00-7:00 PM; Th 12:00-1:00 PM; other times by appointment or chance

*Who climbs the grammar-tree, distinctly knows*

*Where noun, and verb, and participle grows...*

(A quotation – ripped out of context – from John Dryden)

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**Prerequisite:** LING 3311 (Introduction to Linguistic Science: Descriptive Linguistics), or permission of advisor.

**Required Text:**

Paul R. Kroeger, *Analyzing Grammar: An Introduction* (2005), Cambridge: Cambridge UP. ISBN-10: 0521016533.

**Course Description:** This course is a survey of the varieties of grammatical constructions found in language. It provides “a general introduction to morphology (the structure of words) and syntax (the structure of phrases and sentences). . . . [I]t provides a foundation for analyzing and describing the grammatical structure of any human language. . . . [I]t uses English examples to illustrate a number of points, especially in the area of syntax; but examples from many other languages are discussed as well” (Kroeger xi).

**Course Objectives:** The objective of LING 3340 is to give students tools to enable them to analyze the grammar of a language by distinguishing between morphological and syntactic phenomena and explicating their interaction with each other. Particular attention will be paid to (1) the differences between derivational and inflectional morphology and (2) syntactic constituent analysis.

**Student Learning Objectives:** By the time students complete this course, they should be able to:

- Correctly use linguistic terminology relating to syntactic and morphological analysis.
- Identify and categorize morphemes, in English and in glossed or translated language data.
- Analyze constituency and make arguments for the constituents identified.
- Construct phrase structure trees of English sentences and of glossed or translated language data.
- Analyze unfamiliar language data in order to describe structure and function.

**Course Requirements:**

1. HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS ..... 50%
  - The specific content of each assignment will be announced in class; due dates are noted in the schedule.

- All work must be your own. Collaboration outside of class is academic dishonesty.
  - Assignments should be neatly handwritten or typed.
  - Homework assignments will be collected at the beginning of lecture on the day they are due.
  - Homework assignments will not be accepted late without penalty. If you know you will be gone the day an assignment is due, make arrangements to turn it in ahead of time. Late assignments will only be accepted up until a week past the due date and will be penalized one letter grade per class day late. After one week, a missing assignment will be given a score of 0 with no possibility for make-up or extra-credit. If you miss class unexpectedly, email me as soon as possible; I will not contact you.
  - If you arrive to class more than 10 minutes late on the day an assignment is due, the assignment will be counted one class period late.
  - If you come to class when an assignment is due but have not completed that assignment, you must leave the room while we discuss the assignment in class. If you stay for the discussion, you will not be permitted to turn in the assignment for credit (instead, a 0 will be assigned).
  - You may not use the internet or other non-class resources to assist you in the preparation of your homework assignments.
  - Anticipate that I will take 1 week to grade and return your assignments. If I'm faster, please be surprised rather than adjusting your expectations.
  - If you think that I unjustly penalized you in grading an assignment, please make a personal appeal, stating your reasons. I will re-evaluate my grading decision in light of the case you make, but I reserve the right to leave your grade as I originally marked it.
2. MID-TERM EXAMINATION (IN-CLASS)..... 20%
- Details about this examination will be discussed in class. Missing class on the day of a test will result in a grade of 0 on the test. This test will not be administered early or late.
3. FINAL EXAMINATION (IN-CLASS) ..... 20%
- Details about this examination will be discussed in class. Missing class on the day of a test will result in a grade of 0 on the test. This test will not be administered early or late.
4. CLASS PARTICIPATION ..... 10%
- The class participation grade is based on participation in class discussion and group work. Each unexcused missed day will result in 2 percentage points off your final grade, up to a total of 10 percentage points (the entire participation grade).

**Grading Policy:** This course uses a 10-point scale: 90% - 100% is an "A," less than 90% but at least 80% is a B, etc. An "A" is earned with outstanding homework and consistent, active participation; a "B" is earned with very good work and consistent participation; a "C" represents good work and some participation. A "D" or an "F" is typically earned by failure to complete assignments, complete disengagement in class (or not attending), or academic dishonesty.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend every scheduled class. In addition to lecture and in-class discussions, a significant portion of class time will be devoted to at-the-board practice of skills learned in the readings and lectures.

Two absences will be excused without penalty. See “class participation” above for deductions given to unexcused absences. Please notify the instructor about classes you plan to miss. Exceptions to the attendance policy might be possible in extraordinary circumstances – if details are worked out in advance (when possible). If you miss class, you must contact me as soon as possible to find out whether you missed handouts, changes to the schedule, special instructions, or homework. I will not seek you out when you miss class; you must contact me to request materials you missed.

**Sickness:** Illness that results in your missing more than 1 consecutive class periods will require a doctor’s note. Medical notes can be acquired during a free checkup at the University Clinic.

**There is no "extra-credit" or "make-up" work in this course.**

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### Classroom Policies

The following policies have been instituted to ensure an optimal learning experience for all students.

- Please arrive on time. If you arrive after class has begun, please enter as unobtrusively as possible.
- Please plan to stay for the entire class meeting. If you need to leave early, please sit near the door and exit as unobtrusively as possible.
- Please prepare for each class meeting by completing all writing / reading assignments beforehand.
- Please come to class prepared to engage your mind as fully as possible. To this end, I respectfully insist that you:
  - leave your cell phone off at all times;
  - use a laptop computer only for taking course notes – no surfing the net, IM-ing, etc.;
  - limit conversation to class-related topics; and
  - do your best not to fall asleep.
- Please feel free to engage in classroom discussions. In doing so, keep your comments relevant and respectful to me, your colleagues, and the learning process.

### A Few Other Matters

**Please communicate with the instructor primarily by email.** My cell phone number is provided for the following limited circumstances: 1) You have made an appointment with me but the office door is locked or I am not there; 2) You have made an appointment with me but find at the last minute that you cannot come or will be significantly late; 3) You find at the last minute that you will not be able to make it to class **and** homework is due or an exam is taking place that day **and** you will have no access to email to let me know by classtime that day.

**Please do come see me if you are having trouble or simply wish to discuss what you are learning.** Feel free to ask for an appointment if my office hours are not convenient for you.

**If you must miss class on the day an assignment is due,** either drop it off early during my office hours, or leave it in the Linguistics & TESOL office (HH 403) and send an email to say you have done so, or else email me the assignment by the due date.

**If you have exceptional circumstances** during the semester, I encourage you to approach me, explain your circumstances, and request that I make adjustments in the application of my policies or in the syllabus schedule. I intend to enforce these policies fairly, but I'm willing to consider requests for exceptions – if the events warrant.

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### **Important Academic and Administrative Policies**

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the course syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week.

**Americans With Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

As a student, your responsibility rests with informing the instructor in writing or email and providing the official documentation from the Office for Students with Disabilities no later than the end of the second week of classes.

According to Department of Linguistics and TESOL policy, "unofficial" or "informal" requests for accommodations (i.e., those not recorded by the Office of Students with Disabilities) cannot be honored.

**Academic Dishonesty:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. Students involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from UTA.

According to the UT System Regents' Rules and Regulations, "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22).

While the Department of Linguistics and TESOL hopes to foster a sense of community in which students can enhance their educational experience by conferring with each other about the lectures, readings, and assignments, all work submitted must be the product of each student's own effort. Students are expected to know and honor the standards of academic integrity followed by American universities; ignorance of these standards is not an excuse for committing an act of academic dishonesty (including plagiarism). If you have questions, please speak with your instructor, your academic advisor, or the department chair.

Please be advised that departmental policy requires instructors to formally file charges with the Office of Student Conduct, following procedures laid out for faculty (<http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/conduct/faculty.html>), as well as notify the department chair of the filing of the charges.

**Student Support Services Available:** The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for information and referrals.

**Enrolling in / Withdrawing from this Course:** Students are responsible for making all decisions regarding their enrollment status in UTA courses. Should you decide to withdraw from this course, you must either (1) drop via the internet through the MyMav system or (2) complete an official "add/drop" and file it in the Linguistics and TESOL department office. Any student who stops attending class and/or fails to complete assigned work will not be "automatically" dropped; in such cases, unless you officially withdraw, you will receive a grade of F. (Note: Students enrolled in graduate courses may not "replace" a grade; all grades are permanent.)

A student dropping his/her last (only) course cannot withdraw as above. Rather, s/he must go in person to the UTA Registrar's Office (Davis Hall, First Floor) and complete a request to resign from the university.

**Auditors:** The Department of Linguistics and TESOL has a "no audit" policy. Students attending LING classes must be officially enrolled in those courses. Exception: Students who have already fulfilled a degree requirements and would like to sit in on a comparable course to prepare for their comprehensive / diagnostic examination may do so (with the permission of the professor).

## Projected Course Schedule

The following table presents the anticipated schedule for course topics, reading, homework assignments, and exams. Please complete the reading for each lecture *prior* to arriving at class. Written assignments are due on the day listed. I reserve the right to alter the course schedule at any time; that said, I will do my best to announce any changes in advance.

Wk		Monday	Wednesday
1	January		20: Grammatical Form (ch. 1)
2		25: Analyzing Word Structure (ch.2)	27: (cont. ch.2) >M130 Awa >M008 Michoacán Nahuatl
3	February	1: Constituent Structure (ch.3) >M024 Pocomchi (PCC) >M025 Sierra Popoluca (PCC)	3: (cont. ch.3) >M034 H. Nahuatl (PCC)
4		8: (cont. ch.3)	10: (cont. ch.3)
5		15: (cont. ch.3) >M140 Oaxaca Chontal	17: (cont. ch.3)
6		22: Semantic Roles & Gram. Relations (ch.4) >Bisa (lexicon of roots; PS rules; tree diagrams for ex. 1, 6, 7)	24: (cont. ch.4)
7		1: Lexical Entries & Well-Formed Clauses (ch.5) >Ex. 4-A (English semantic roles)	3: (cont. ch.5)
8	March	8: (cont. ch.5) >Chaopan Zapotec	10: Noun Phrases (ch.6)
		15: SPRING BREAK	17: SPRING BREAK
9		22: (cont. ch.6) >Ex. 6-A Agatu	24: (cont. ch.6)
10		29: <b>MID-TERM EXAMINATION</b>	31: Case & Agreement (ch.7)
11	April	5: (cont. ch.7)	7: (cont. ch.7)
12		12: Noun classes & Pronouns (ch.8) >Ex 7-A Quiché verb agreement >Ex. 7-C Yidiny case	14: Non-Verbal Predicates (ch.10)
13		19: (cont. ch.10)	21: Subordinate clauses (ch.12) >Vietnamese Nonverbal Predicates
14		26: (cont. ch.12) >M277 Lalana Chinantec	28: (cont. ch.12) >Korean relative clauses
15		May	3: Derivational Morphology (ch.13)
*			<b>12 (Wed): FINAL EXAM Period (8:15 - 10:45 p.m.)</b>

Last day to Drop: Friday, April 2