

LING 2200: Intro Study Language

Yang Wang

Course

Semester: Fall 2024

Time: M/W 3:00 - 4:20PM

Textbook: None

Website: Canvas/Discord

Location: LNCO 1100

Prerequisites: None

Instructor

Email: yangx.wang@utah.edu

Office Hours: T/TR 2:00 - 3:30PM

Pronoun: she/her/hers

Location: LNCO 2321

1 Important dates

Event	Date
Last day to add without a permission code	08/23, Friday Week 1
Last day to wait list	08/23, Friday Week 1
Last day to add, drop (delete), elect CR/NC, or audit classes	08/30, Friday Week 2
Last day to withdraw from classes	10/18, Friday Week 9
Last day to reverse CR/NC option	11/29, Friday Week 15

2 Course Description

The course is an introduction to the nature of human language from modern perspectives in linguistics. Focuses on sounds, words, and sentences through analysis of data from various languages, as well as social factors in language variation and language acquisition by children and adults. Additional topics may include: language change through time, language processing, and the relationship between language and culture. This course meets the Social & Behavioral Science (BF) Exploration requirement for General Education.

3 Course Outcomes

Ling 2200 is both the foundational course for Linguistics majors and minors, and a GE fulfilling the Social/Behavioral Science requirement (BF). Its objectives and learning outcomes reflect these dual roles. By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Engage in complex analysis and reasoning, develop and evaluate arguments informed by evidence.
- Make arguments and express analyses through a range of media (prose, diagrams, formal notations).

- Learn how grammatical systems can be scientifically studied and analyzed as formal systems.
- Acquire an appreciation for the complexity and abstractness that underlies their unique ability to comprehend, produce, and acquire language(s).
- Identify the ways in which language relates to users’ identities, and how language use and policy reflect society.
- Develop intellectual skills of reasoning, analysis, and critical thinking that are broadly applicable to our interactions with the world.

4 Course materials

You are not required to purchase any textbooks or materials for this class. All necessary materials, including assignments, lecture notes, slides, and readings, will be distributed through the course website on Canvas. Optional readings will be assigned from freely accessible sources, with the relevant chapters indicated on Canvas for each week.

- Anderson, Catherine, Bronwyn Bjorkman, Derek Denis, Julianne Doner, Margaret Grant, Nathan Sanders, and Ai Taniguchi. 2022. *Essentials of Linguistics*, 2nd edition. eCampusOntario. Online. <https://ecampusontario.pressbooks.pub/essentialsoflinguistics2/>
- Hayes, Bruce. (2021). *Introductory Linguistics*. UCLA, Los Angeles. <https://linguistics.ucla.edu/people/hayes/20/Text/HayesIntroductoryLinguistics2021.pdf>

5 Course requirements and grading

Grade break-down

	Option 1	Option 2		+	-	
In-class quizzes	10%	10%	A		94–100%	90–93.99%
Homework	50%	40%	B	87–89.99%	84–86.99%	80–83.99%
Midterm	15%	15%	C	77–79.99%	74–76.99%	70–73.99%
Cumulative Final Exam	25%	35%	D	67–69.99%	64–66.99%	60–63.99%
In total	100%	100%	E		≤ 59.99%	

5.1 Very short in-class quizzes (10%)

Your quizzes will not be graded based on accuracy but will be graded based on attendance and completion.¹ This is a great opportunity for you to refresh your memory on the content from the previous class. It also gives me a chance to identify any areas where you might be struggling, so I can find more effective ways to help you!

¹If you are still curious why I am doing this, take a look at this paper (testing seems to be more effective than studying because it involves “effortful retrieval”; access [here](#).)

There will be approximately 22 quizzes in total, each contributing 0.5% to your overall grade. You are allowed to miss up to 2 quizzes without needing to provide any excuses. However, if you complete all the quizzes, you will earn one extra credit point toward your final grade.

If you are going to miss due to illness, let me know **in advance** by email. You can make up the missed work during my office hours within one week after the class. Please note that while the makeup problems will cover the same material, they will be different from the in-class ones.

5.2 Homework (50% in total; 10% each)

There will be five homework sets, typically due on **Mondays 11:59pm MDT**. I will give you roughly two weeks to complete them. All assignments, unless otherwise announced, must be submitted to the designated area of Canvas. Do not submit assignments via email. The work in this course is cumulative, and timely completion of coursework is important. Please speak with Yang if brief extensions are needed; delayed work will be accepted for course credit only according to agreed-upon extensions.

You are allowed (in fact, even encouraged!) to collaborate on homework with each other but not to post answers or copy them from someone else. Each person must hand in their own write-up of the assignment (no direct copies or jointly authored assignments allowed).

5.3 Midterm (15%)

5.4 Cumulative final (25%)

5.5 Another grading option

You can drop one lowest hw grade, and then homework will be 40% of the final grade. For this option, the cumulative final will be 35% of your final grade. When I assign the final letter grade, I will automatically choose the option that yields a higher grade.

5.6 Extra credits (up to 5% bonus to final grade)

SONA credit (2% bonus to final grade)

In this course students can earn two extra credits for participation in Linguistics studies this semester. For more information and to sign up for linguistics studies, please visit: <https://sites.google.com/view/speech-acquisition-lab/participate-in-experiments>.

If you need accommodation of any kind, have a question about accommodation, and/or prefer to complete an alternative assignment for any reason, please create a SONA account and then email us at speechlab@utah.edu. Arrangements for alternative assignments must be made before the current semester's add/drop deadline. If no study appointments are available, check back later, as new appointments are added periodically. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Linguistics Study Pool or the Sona sign-up system, please contact the Linguistic Study Pool coordinators at speechlab@utah.edu.

Class engagement (up to 3% bonus to final grade)

You can earn up to three extra credits through the following activities. No double-dipping except in the first category.

1. attending a Department of Linguistics colloquium talk
2. pointing out problems with the materials (e.g. typos, notes, my posts)
3. raising a question on Discord/Canvas discussion board
4. volunteering answers to peer questions during lectures and office hours, and/or on Discord/Canvas
5. sharing useful links or resources
6. attending office hours during the first three weeks of classes

6 Course policies

1. **Email policy:** please email me instead of leaving me a message on Canvas. Be sure to put '[Ling 2200]' somewhere in the subject line, so that I can locate your message as soon as possible. I will do my best to respond within 24 hours on weekdays. If you haven't heard back from me within that time, feel free to follow up with another email.
2. **Office hours:** Office hours are a space for us to discuss any issues or concerns you might have with the class, and you are always welcome to drop by, whether or not you have a specific question. Beyond the designated office hours, I have an open-door policy: if you see my door open, feel free to knock, and I'll be happy to help with any questions you have.
3. **On the role of grading:** I believe that grades should be mostly an instrument for you to get feedback about how much I think you are internalizing the materials. Please try not to take grades as a war between you and me, but as a way for you to take the best out of the course. For any issue/dissatisfaction with your grades, requests for grade changes, etc, you should contact Yang within a week after the grade is posted.
4. **On the role of attendance:** This course is designed to be interactive and collaborative. Classes will consist of lectures, discussion and group problem solving. Given the hands-on nature of the course, it is my experience that regular attendance will be crucial to your success in this course. If you find attending class useless, let me know so I can improve! If you are having problems attending class for whatever reason and you feel I can help, let me know so that we can brainstorm strategies!
5. **Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion:** We are committed to providing opportunities for all to embrace diversity and promote equity and justice, engaging all students in post-secondary education. This commitment requires that we be willing to listen, learn and change; that our classrooms challenge assumptions; and that all members of our community are responsible for creating and maintaining a safe space for learning and growth. Respectful debate and civil disagreement are encouraged and expected; mocking, belittling, and bullying will not be tolerated.

7 Course schedule (tentative)

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>In-class quizzes</i>	<i>Homework due</i>
1	8/19	Welcome + syllabus		
	8/21	What is linguistics? Myths & facts		
2	8/26	Phonetics	Quiz 1	
	8/28	Phonetics	Quiz 2	
3	9/02	<i>Labor day holiday</i>		
	9/04	Phonetics	Quiz 3	
4	9/09	Phonetics & Phonology	Quiz 4	HW1 due Monday (9/09)
	9/11	Phonology	Quiz 5	
5	9/16	Phonology	Quiz 6	
	9/18	Phonology	Quiz 7	
6	9/23	Morphology	Quiz 8	HW2 due Monday (9/23)
	9/25	Morphology	Quiz 9	
7	9/30	Morphology	Quiz 10	
	10/02	Morphology	Quiz 11	
8	10/07	<i>Fall break</i>		
	10/09	<i>Fall break</i>		
9	10/14	Midterm review	Quiz 12	HW3 due Monday (10/14)
	10/16	Midterm		
10	10/21	Syntax		
	10/23	Syntax	Quiz 13	
11	10/28	Syntax	Quiz 14	
	10/30	Syntax	Quiz 15	
12	11/04	Semantics & pragmatics	Quiz 16	
	11/06	Semantics & pragmatics	Quiz 17	
13	11/11	Psycholinguistics	Quiz 18	HW4 due Monday (11/11)
	11/13	Psycholinguistics	Quiz 19	
14	11/18	Acquisition	Quiz 20	
	11/20	Acquisition	Quiz 21	
15	11/25	Variation	Quiz 22	HW5 due Monday (11/25)
	11/27	Research showcase (?)		
16	12/02	Final review		
	12/04	In-class final!		

Note: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Please note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas under Announcements.

8 Getting help

1. Please know that my goal as an instructor is to support your success in this class and in your education as much as possible. We aim to challenge you, but not to set you up for failure. Please make use of office hours and class time to ask any questions you may have.
 - (a) **Accommodations.** Accommodations will be considered on an individual basis and may require documentation. Please contact Yang as soon as possible (preferably shortly before the semester begins) to request accommodations of any kind.
 - (b) **Extreme personal circumstances.** Please contact your instructor as soon as possible if an extreme personal circumstance (hospitalization, death of a close relative, natural disaster, etc.) is interfering with your ability to complete your work.
 - (c) **Religious practices.** To request an accommodation for religious practices, contact your instructor at the beginning of the semester.
 - (d) **Active duty military.** If you are a student on active duty with the military and experience issues that prevent you from participating in the course because of deployment or service responsibilities, contact Yang as soon as possible to discuss appropriate accommodations.
 - (e) **Disability access.** All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services (CDS). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. Prior notice is appreciated. To read the full accommodations policy for the University of Utah, please see Section Q of the Instruction & Evaluation regulations (<http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-100.php>). If you will need accommodations in this class, contact the Center for Disability Services 801-581-5020 (<https://disability.utah.edu/>).
2. Your success at the University of Utah is important to all of us here! If you feel like you need extra support in academics, overcoming personal difficulties, or finding community, the U is here for you. Please refer to the [Student Support Services](#) page for the U for updated information. Please feel welcome to reach out to Yang to handle issues regarding your coursework.
3. Success at The University of Utah includes learning about and using available resources. The Basic Needs Collective (BNC) is a coordinated resource referral hub. They educate about and connect students to campus and community resources to help them meet their basic needs. As a central location for resource referrals related to food, housing, health insurance, managing finances, legal services, mental health, etc., any student experiencing difficulty with basic needs is encouraged to contact them. Drop into their office located in the Union basement or schedule with them online for an in-person or virtual visit through their webpage: <https://basicneeds.utah.edu/>.

9 University Policies

1. **The Americans with Disabilities Act.** The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability & Access, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be

made available in an alternative format with prior notification to [the Center for Disability & Access](#).

Given the nature of this course, attendance is required and adjustments will only be permitted as required by Policy 6-100(III)(O). If you need to seek an ADA accommodation to request an exception to this attendance policy due to a disability, please contact the Center for Disability and Access (CDA). CDA will work with us to determine what, if any, ADA accommodations are reasonable and appropriate.

In compliance with ADA requirements, some students may need to record course content. Any recordings of course content are for personal use only, should not be shared, and should not be made publicly available. In addition, recordings should be destroyed at the conclusion of the course.

- 2. University Safety Statement.** The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit <https://safeu.utah.edu>
- 3. Addressing Sexual Misconduct.** Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 383 South University Street, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

Lauren's Promise: Lauren's Promise is a vow that anyone – faculty, staff, students, parents, and community members – can take to indicate to others that they represent a safe haven for sharing incidents of sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking. Anyone who makes Lauren's Promise vows to: 1.) listen to and believe those individuals who are being threatened or experiencing sexual assault, dating violence or stalking; 2.) represent a safe haven for sharing incidents of sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking; and 3.) change campus culture that responds poorly to dating violence and stalking. By making Lauren's Promise, individuals are helping to change campus cultures that respond poorly to dating violence and stalking throughout the nation.

- 4. Academic Misconduct Statement.** It is expected that students adhere to University of Utah policies regarding academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting one's work, and/or inappropriately collaborating. This includes the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools without citation, documentation, or authorization. Students are expected to adhere to the prescribed professional and ethical standards of the

profession/discipline for which they are preparing. Any student who engages in academic dishonesty or who violates the professional and ethical standards for their profession/discipline may be subject to academic sanctions as per the University of Utah's Student Code: <https://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-410.php>

5. **Drop/Withdrawal Policies.** Students may drop a course within the first two weeks of a given semester without any penalties. Students may officially withdraw (W) from a class or all classes after the drop deadline through the midpoint of a course. A "W" grade is recorded on the transcript and appropriate tuition/fees are assessed. The grade "W" is not used in calculating the student's GPA. For deadlines to withdraw from full-term, first, and second session classes, see the U's Academic Calendar.