

Abrahams-Curiel Department of Foreign Literatures & Linguistics

Academic year 2023-24 (תשפ"ד)

Course title (English): Introduction to Linguistics

Course title (Hebrew): מבוא לבלשנות

Course number: 133-1-0014

Course slot (semester/s, weekday/s, hours): fall semester, online, weekly meetings Wed. 10-12

Lecturer: Dr. Aviya Hacohen

Lecturer's conference hour and contact details:

Aviya@bgu.ac.il

By appointment

Course description & objectives:

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the study of linguistics as a scientific discipline within the realm of cognitive science. We will discuss the key issues and questions that concern scholars in the field, focusing on topics such as language and thought and language acquisition. Student will gain understanding of the various subcomponents of language (syntax, semantics/pragmatics, phonology, and morphology) and acquire the basic tools necessary for the syntactic analysis of linguistic data. This course is not designed to provide definitive answers; its central aim is to intellectually stimulate the students and motivate them to further explore this incredible capacity which defines us as humans.

Course requirements:

Students are expected to follow the schedule of the course and actively participate in the discussion of each reading assignment using Perusall's annotation platform.

After completing each reading, students should watch all the relevant class presentations. These serve to highlight the most important topics addressed in the reading and are intended to help focus the student on the "take-home message".

It is also highly recommended that students watch and read the relevant supplementary material, such as the videos and extra reading. These will be made available on Perusall.

The **final grade** for the course will be based on:

- Reading and annotations via Perusall (15%) –pass/fail
- Lecture watching (5%) - pass/fail
- Assignments (15%) – numerical
- Midterm (15%)
- Final exam (50%)

Important!

Students must submit at least 80% of reading and tutorial assignments. Failing to do this will result in automatic failure. Note, that 80% is merely the threshold for passing; each assignment still counts towards the final grade.

According to faculty policy, students must earn a passing grade (56) on the final exam in order to pass the course (יש חובת מעבר במבחן גמר)

Extra credit can be earned through:

- Consistently high annotation score (2%)
- Participation (3%)

Topics & bibliography

Main textbook

Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., & Hyams, N. M. (2014). *An introduction to language* (10th ed.). Boston, MA: Wadsworth.

Additional chapters from

Larson, R. K. (2010). *Grammar as Science*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

Napoli, D. J., & Lee-Schoenfeld, V. (2010). *Language matters: a guide to everyday questions about language*. Oxford University Press.

Academic honesty

You are highly encouraged to read, discuss and study together with your fellow students, both for the assignments and for the exams. However, all work that you submit in your name, must be **your own original work**. Plagiarism and cheating are forms of academic dishonesty and will be (potentially) rewarded with a failing grade for the entire course.

The university guidelines on academic honesty, is stated in section 4 of the following document: https://in.bgu.ac.il/acadsec/doclib2/plagiarism_eng.pdf