

Academic year 2023-24 (תשפ"ד)

**Course title (English):** Introduction to Linguistics

**Course title (Hebrew):** מבוא לבלשנות

**Course number:** 133-1-1411

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

**Lecturer:** Dr. Aviya Hacoheh

**Lecturer's conference hour and contact details:**

[Aviya@bgu.ac.il](mailto: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 closely and submit the assignments on time. 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".

Students are **encouraged to** actively participate in the **class meetings**. 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 **Moodle**.

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

- Reading assignments (10%) – pass/fail
- Lecture watching (5%) – pass/fail
- Written assignments (10%) – numerical
- Midterm (15%)
- Final exam (60%)

**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:

- Participation in class meetings (2%)
- Participation in tutorials (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](https://in.bgu.ac.il/acadsec/doclib2/plagiarism_eng.pdf)