

## Linguistics Fall 2009 Course Descriptions

**LING 1101 Introduction to Linguistics (KMC)** MWF 11:15-12:05, sections on W  
Fall - R. Katzir

An overview of the science of language, especially its theoretical underpinnings, methods, and major findings. Among the areas covered are: the relation between sound and meaning in human languages, social variation in language, language change over time, universals of language, and the mental representation of linguistic knowledge. Students are introduced to a wide variety of language phenomena, drawn not only from languages resembling English, but also from many which appear to be quite unlike English, such as those native to the Americas, Africa, Asia, Australia and the South Pacific.

**LING 1131 Elementary Sanskrit** [cross-listed with SANSK 1131] MTRF 11:15-12:05  
Fall - A. Nussbaum

An introduction to the essentials of Sanskrit grammar. Designed to enable the student to read classical and epic Sanskrit as quickly as possible.

**LING 1170 Introduction to Cognitive Science (KMC)** [cross-listed with COGST 1101]  
TR 11:40-12:55

Fall - B. Bienvenue

This course surveys the study of how the mind/brain works. We examine how intelligent information processing can arise from biological and artificial systems. The course draws primarily from five disciplines that make major contributions to cognitive science: philosophy, psychology, neuroscience, linguistics, and computer science. The first part of the course introduces the roles played by these disciplines in cognitive science. The second part of the course focuses on how each of these disciplines contributes to the study of five topics in cognitive science: language, vision, learning and memory, action, and artificial intelligence.

**LING 2217 History of the English Language to 1300 (HA)** MWF 10:10-11:00  
Fall - W. Harbert

This course explores the development of the English language from its Indo-European beginnings through the period of Early Middle English. Topics covered include linguistic reconstruction, changes in sounds, vocabulary and grammatical structure, external influences, Old and Early Middle English language and literature.

**LING 2251 Intermediate Sanskrit @# (option one)** [cross-listed with SANSK 2251]  
MWF 11:15-12:05

Fall - L. McCrea

Readings from the literature of classical Sanskrit. Selections from the two Sanskrit epics, the Mahabharata and the Ramayana.

**LING 3301 Introduction to Phonetics (KCM)** MWF 1:15-2:15  
Fall - S. unDowla Khan

An introduction to the study of the physical properties of human speech sounds, including production, acoustics, and perception of speech. The course will provide in-depth exposure to the breadth of sounds found across human languages. Students will achieve a high level of skill in phonetic transcription, and some practice in reading spectrograms. An introduction to speech synthesis and automatic speech recognition is also provided. A small course project to discover the phonemes of an unknown language is undertaken. Prerequisite: LING 1101 or permission of instructor.

**LING 3303 Introduction to Syntax (KCM)** TR 11:40-12:55  
Fall - J. Bowers

An introduction to syntax, which studies how words are combined to form phrases and sentences. The course aims to equip students with the ability to address questions regarding the syntactic properties that are shared by natural languages (as well as those that distinguish them) in a precise and informed way. The topics covered in the course include those that lie at the heart of theoretical syntax: phrase structure,

transformations, grammatical relations and anaphora. Emphasis throughout the course is placed on forming and testing hypotheses. Prerequisite: LING 1101 or permission of instructor.

**LING 3308            Readings in Celtic Languages            TBA**

Fall - W. Harbert

Reading/discussion groups in Welsh or Scottish Gaelic. Prerequisite: permission of instructor.

**LING 3315            Old Norse            MWF 9:00-9:05**

Fall - L. Heimisdóttir

Study of the linguistic structure of Old Norse, with extensive reading of Old Norse texts. The structure of Old Norse (Old Icelandic), phonology, and morphology, with reading of selections from the Prose-Edda, a thirteenth-century narrative based on the Edaic poetry.

**LING 4401            Phonology I (KCM)            TR 10:10-11:25**

Fall - D. Zec

A basic introduction to phonological theory. The first half of the course focuses on basic principles of phonology, patterns of sounds, and their representations. In the second half, the nature of syllable structure and feature representations are explored. Prerequisite: LING 3302 or equivalent.

**LING 4403            Syntax I (KCM)            MW 2:55-4:10**

Fall - R. Katzir

An advanced introduction to syntactic theory within the principles and parameters/minimalist frameworks. The topics covered include phrase structure, argument structure (unaccusative verbs, unergative verbs, double object constructions), principles of word order, and the binding theory. Prerequisite: LING 3303

**LING 4419            Phonetics I (KCM)            MWF 10:10-11:00**

Fall - S. unDowla Khan

Provides a basic introduction to the study of phonetics. Topics to be covered include anatomy and physiology of the speech production apparatus, transcription and production of some of the world's sounds, basic acoustics, computerized methods of speech analysis, acoustic characteristics of sounds, speech perception, speech synthesis, stress and intonation. Prerequisite: LING 3301 or permission of instructor.

**LING 421            Semantics I (KCM)            TR 11:40-12:55**

Fall - D. Abusch

This course introduces methods for theorizing about meaning within generative grammar. These techniques allow us to create grammars which pair syntactic structures with meanings. We will look at several empirical areas in detail, among them complementation (combining heads with their arguments), modification, conjunction, definite descriptions, relative clauses, traces, bound pronouns and quantification. An introduction to logical and mathematical concepts used in linguistic semantics (such as set theory, functions and their types, and the lambda notation for naming linguistic meanings) is included in the course. Prerequisite: LING 3304.

**LING 4423            Morphology (KCM)            TR 2:55-4:10**

Fall - M. Diesing

This course addresses the basic issues in the study of words and their structures. It provides an introduction to different types of morphological structures with examples from a wide range of languages. Special emphasis is given to current theoretical approaches to morphological theory. Prerequisite: LING 1101 or equivalent or permission of instructor.

**LING 4424            Computational Linguistics (MQR)            MWF 1:25-2:15**

Fall - J. Hale

Steady progress in formalisms, algorithms, linguistic knowledge, and computer technology is bringing computational mastery of the syntax, morphology, and phonology of natural languages within reach.

