



University of Puerto Rico
Río Piedras Campus
College of Humanities- English Department

SYLLABUS

INGL 4205 – Sec. 001
Prof. Robert Dupey
January / 2021 - Three (3) credit hours
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10:00 – 11:20
robert.dupey1@upr.edu

Study of Language: Introduction to Linguistics

I. Course Description

INGL 4205 is a course geared toward contemporary linguistic theory, including phonetics and phonology, morphology, syntax, discourse analysis, as well as language variation and change. **This course offered in the classroom, online and hybrid.**

Text: Yule, George. *The Study of Language*, 7th ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020.

II. Course Objectives:

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

- a. recognize the different levels of linguistic structure and analyze linguistic data;
- b. familiarize themselves with phonetic symbols and phonological patterns;
- c. appreciate how morphemes function to denote meaning and syntactic information;
- d. understand how syntactic constituents and rules of grammatical structure function;
- e. appreciate how languages originate and why they change;
- f. familiarize themselves with issues regarding language acquisition;
- g. recognize features of language varieties and why they exist
- h. contribute in an effective manner to the inclusion of fellow students with special needs in the classroom and group work

III. Teaching Strategies / Methodology

Students will be assigned study material related to specific featured concepts that are required reading before class. Then, classes will consist of a thorough review and discussion of all required readings. There will be assigned work to practice and evidence learning.

IV. Course Outline and Distribution of Time – Online (Remote) Sessions

| Unit of Study/Theme | Contact Hours | Activities |
|---|---------------|---|
| Course Introduction | 3 | Course Introduction / Full discussion of course syllabus, course requirements and a thorough overview of the new semester |
| Sections 1 and 2: The Origins of Language and Animals and Human Language | 6 | Synchronic meetings Assessment activities Instructional videos Assignments Oral presentations |
| Sections 3 and 4: The Sounds of Language and the Sound Patterns of Language | 6 | Synchronic meetings Assessment activities Instructional videos Assignments Oral presentations |
| Sections 5 and 6: Word Formation and Morphology | 6 | Synchronic meetings Assessment activities Instructional videos Assignments Oral presentations |
| Sections 7 and 8: Grammar and Syntax | 6 | Synchronic meetings Assessment activities Instructional videos Assignments Oral presentations |
| Sections 13 and 14: First Language Acquisition and Second Language Acquisition and Learning | 6 | Synchronic meetings Assessment activities Instructional videos Assignments Oral presentations |

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| Sections 18 and 19: Regional Variation in Language and Social Variation in Language | 6 | Synchronic meetings Assessment activities Instructional videos Assignments Oral presentations |
| Section 20: Language and Culture | 6 | Synchronic meetings Assessment activities Instructional videos Assignments Oral presentations |
| Total Contact Hours | 45 | - |

Important note: In the course outline above, details regarding *the dates* for all class activities have not been included, as this information is always subject to change. Please keep in mind that each class meeting corresponds to *1.5 credit hours*; a full week of class corresponds to *3 credit hours*. Thus, we obtain the required 45 credit hours throughout the semester.

V. Course Requirements and Evaluation

1. Attendance: Students are expected to attend class each day and also arrive on time. Students will receive a **100 point** attendance grade at the end of the semester. Each unexcused absence to any class signifies a reduction of seven (7) points for this aspect of each student's performance.

0 absences = 100%

1 absence = 93%

2 absences = 86%

3 absences = 79%

4 absences = 72% etc.

Students have made a personal commitment to all of their college courses and, therefore, can fully benefit from them only by attending each day. Only serious illness, the loss of a family member or other extremely serious circumstances will be considered as a valid excuse for absences. Punctuality is also very important. Students must be **present** for each test / presentation. Only a very **serious** emergency will be accepted in the case of a makeup exam. If not, a grade of 0 will be given. Attendance as well and punctuality are **mandatory**. A close record of each student's attendance at all online sessions will be kept. Make-up tests, given only under these circumstances, will be somewhat different from those taken by the group. *Naturally, under the current circumstances due to online classes and given the pandemic, a good deal of flexibility and understanding is demonstrated in light of WIFI / Internet / electrical power issues with which we now all have to deal.*

2. There will be numerous individual and / or group oral presentation (25 pts.) based upon a variety of topics which arise during the course of the semester.

3. There will be **two written exams** during the course of the semester. Please note that both exams will be held asynchronously following the discussion of Sections 1 through 6 and Sections 7 through 20, respectively. (Please see course outline above).
4. A full (**100 pt.**) grade based on each student's class participation, daily performance, and effort will be given at the conclusion of the semester.
5. Students are asked to always have the following materials for each class session: their textbooks, any assigned work ready and a notebook.

VI. Office Hours

By agreement / carried out remotely

Important Notices: In accordance with the recommendation of the Dean of Students Office (Division for Persons with Disabilities), students who are clients of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester in order to make arrangements for reasonable accommodations and for any necessary auxiliary equipment. Other students with special needs who require any kind of assistance or reasonable accommodations should also contact the professor. Alternative evaluation methods will be provided to students with identified special needs.

“The University of Puerto Rico prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in any of its forms including that of sexual harassment. According to the Institutional Policy Against Harassment at the University of Puerto Rico, Certification Num. 130, 2014-2015 from the Board of Governors, any student subjected to acts constituting sexual harassment, must turn to the Office of the Student Ombudsperson, the Office of the Dean of Students, and/or the Coordinator of the Office of Compliance with Title IX for an orientation and/or a formal complaint.

Los estudiantes que reciban servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional deben comunicarse con la profesora al inicio del semestre para planificar el acomodo razonable y equipo asistivo necesario conforme a las recomendaciones de la Oficina de Asuntos para las Personas con Impedimiento (OAPI) del Decanato de Estudiantes. También aquellos estudiantes con necesidades especiales que requieren de algún tip de asistencia o acomodo deben comunicarse con el/la profesor/a.

Integridad académica: La Universidad de Puerto Rico promueve los más altos estándares de integridad académica y científica. El Artículo 6.2 del Reglamento General de Estudiantes de la UPR (Certificación Núm. 13, 2009-2010, de la Junta de Síndicos) establece que “la deshonestidad académica incluye, pero no se limita a: acciones fraudulentas, la obtención de notas o grados académicos valiéndose de falsas o fraudulentas simulaciones, copiar total o parcialmente la labor académica de otra persona, plagiar total o parcialmente el trabajo de otra persona, copiar total o parcialmente las respuestas de otra persona a las preguntas de un examen, haciendo o

consiguiendo que otro tome en su nombre cualquier prueba o examen oral o escrito, así como la ayuda o facilitación para que otra persona incurra en la referida conducta”. Cualquiera de estas acciones estará sujeta a sanciones disciplinarias en conformidad con el procedimiento disciplinario establecido en el Reglamento General de Estudiantes de la UPR vigente.

VII. Bibliography

Blust, Robert. *101 Problems in Historical Linguistics: A Workbook*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2018.

Cahill, Lynne. *Discovering Phonetics and Phonology*. London: Red Globe Press/Springer, 2019.

Dawson, Hope and Michael Phelan, eds. *Language Files: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics*. Columbus, OH: The Ohio State University Press, 2016.

Fromkin, Victoria et al. *An Introduction to Language*, 11th ed. Boston, MA: Cengage Learning, 2018.

O’Grady, William et al. *Contemporary Linguistics: An Introduction*, 7th ed.. Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2017.

Rowe, Bruce M. and Diane P. Levine. *A Concise Introduction to Linguistics*, 5th ed. New York: Routledge, 2018.

Saville-Troike, Muriel and Karen Barto. *Introducing Second Language Acquisition*, 3rd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017.

Wolfram, Walt and Natalie Schilling. *American English Dialects and Variation (Language in Society)*, 3rd ed. Malden MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2015.

Electronic references:

American English Dialects and Variation, exercises & enhancements

<http://www.americanenglishwiley.com/>

Ethnologue: Languages of the World <https://www.ethnologue.com/>.

Glottolog 4.2.1 The World’s Languages https://glottolog.org/?c=ftd_on_Glossika

Interactive Sagittal Section <http://www.smu-facweb.smu.ca/ns0949176/sammy/>

International Phonetic Alphabet

<http://www.internationalphoneticalphabet.org/ipa-sounds/ipa-chart-with-sounds/>.

Ladefoged Vowels and Consonants Tongue Video

<http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/vowels/ch11/tongue.html>

Lexicon of Linguistics <https://lexicon.hum.uu.nl>

Linguistics Resources on the Internet <https://www.sil.org/linguistics/topical-links>

Omniglot, The Online Encyclopedia of Writing Systems <https://www.omniglot.com/>
SIL Language and Culture Archives <https://www.sil.org/resources/language-culture-archives>
The World Atlas of Language Structures Online <https://wals.info/>