

LNG 160-01

Lehman College, CUNY
Introduction to Linguistics

MON 3:00-5:40, Speech/Thr 204

Instructor: Amy (Xiaomeng) Ma - Graduate Teaching Fellow, Department of Linguistics
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Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to linguistics, which is the scientific study of language. Students will receive a foundation in the core areas of linguistics, including morphology, phonetics, phonology, syntax and semantics. These foundations will then allow students to explore some of the applied fields of linguistics, such as language documentation and language acquisition. The course will approach language from a scientific perspective, encouraging students to develop an aptitude for critical analysis.

Credits: 3

Hours: 3

Textbook: *Linguistics: An Introduction to Language and Communication*, 6th Edition
Author: Adrian Akmajian, Richard A. Demers, Ann K. Farmer, Robert M. Harnish
ISBN-13: 978-0262013758

Recommendation Reading: *The Language Instinct*

Author: Steven Pinker

ISBN-13 978-0061336461

Course Objectives:

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- Refute many popular myths about language.
- Explain the difference between prescriptive grammar and descriptive grammar.
- See human language as an orderly, rule-governed system.
- Use the International Phonetic Alphabet to describe speech sounds.
- Identify some phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic features of language.
- Explain how people learn language.
- Describe some cross-linguistic differences in morphology and syntax.
- Discuss the relationship between language and society.

Letter Grade Distribution:

≥ 93.00	A	73.00 - 76.99	C
90.00 - 92.99	A-	70.00 - 72.99	C-
87.00 - 89.99	B+	67.00 - 69.99	D+
83.00 - 86.99	B	63.00 - 66.99	D
80.00 - 82.99	B-	60.00 - 62.99	D-
77.00 - 79.99	C+	≤ 59.99	F

Grade Distribution:

Attendance and Participation	10%
Midterm Exam	30%
Homework	15%
Group Presentation	15%
Final Exam	30%

Course Policies:

• Attendance and Participation

- Please attend classes on time and finish required readings before class.
- Missing more than **3** classes will result in grade deductions. If you must miss a class, please email me beforehand.

• Midterm and Final Exam

- Midterm and Final exam will be closed book, closed notes, in-class exams.
- Total score for midterm and final exam will be 100'. There will be 25 multiple choice questions, 2' each. Three short essay questions, 10' each. One long essay question, 20'.
- Make-up exam is only available to those who have reasonable excuses. If you have to miss the exam, please contact me **BEFORE** exam day.

• Group Presentation

- Each group consists of 3 or 4 people and the presentation should last around 15-20 minutes.
- The group presentation should reflect the materials the Special Topics session for that chapter. Presentation topic should be communicated with the instructor beforehand.

• Homework

- Homework assignments are opportunities for you to practice the material covered in class. Homework will not be collected for credit, but it will be discussed and reviewed during class as preparation for exams.
- Homework credits are given on the basis of submission.
- There will be two extra credit homework assignments.

College Policies:

Attendance Policy:

Student handbook notes that Students are expected to attend all class meetings as scheduled, and are responsible for all class work missed as a result of late registration or absence. Excessive absences in any course may result in a lower final grade.

Accommodating Disabilities:

Lehman College is committed to providing access to all programs and curricula to all students. Students with disabilities who may require any special considerations should register with the Office of Student Disability Services in order to submit official paperwork to instructor.

For more information, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services, Shuster Hall, Room 238, 718-960-8441. For detailed information on services and resources visit: <http://www.lehman.edu/student-disability-services/>, or email: disability.services@lehman.cuny.edu.

Integrity and Plagiarism Policy:

Academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York. Penalties for academic dishonesty include academic sanctions, such as failing or otherwise reduced grades, and/or disciplinary sanctions, including suspension or expulsion. All violations are reported to the Department and Lehman Colleges Academic Integrity Officer.

For detailed information on definitions and examples of Academic Dishonesty, including Cheating, Plagiarism, Obtaining Unfair Advantage and Falsification of Records and Documents, please refer to the student handbook or visit: <http://lehman.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2017-2019/Undergraduate-Bulletin/Academic-Services-and-Policies/Academic-Integrity>

Technology and Blackboard Information:

You are required to use Blackboard to access course materials and to post assignments to Safe Assign.

You are required to sign into your Lehman student email account for course message-sand check it! Blackboard will only allow me to send individual and mass messages to Lehman accounts. If there is an issue, this is the only account to which I can send and if I email the class something, the fact that you didnt know about an assignment or course change because you dont use your Lehman account will never be accepted for not knowing the information. <http://www.lehman.edu/itr/blackboard.php> For Information Technology: <http://www.lehman.edu/itr/>

Instructional Support Services (ISSP): Lehman Colleges Instructional Support Services Program (ISSP) is home of the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) and Science Learning Center (SLC). Both offer students an array of activities and services designed to support classroom learning. Open to students at any level, there are individual, small group, and/or workshop sessions designed to improve proficiency in writing, reading, research, and particular academic subject areas. Computer-assisted writing/language tutorial programs are also available, as well as individual tutors, workshops and tutors.

To obtain more information about the ACE and the SLC, please visit Old Gym, Room 205 or <http://www.lehman.edu/academics/instructional-support-services/humanities-tutoring.php> or call ACE at 718-960-8175, and SLC at 718-960-7707. Regular tutoring hours for fall spring semesters are: MT 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Library Tutors are also available in the Library. These tutors offer help with Library resources and computers.

Writing-Intensive Course Requirements: Lehman Students must complete four writing-intensive courses. In a WI Course, students should be expected to write approximately 15-20 pages of proofread, typed work that is turned in to the instructor for grading. Various courses stipulate various requirements designed to meet this requisite over the course of the semester. WI courses focus on revision, short long assignments, graded and ungraded writing, journals, etc, and each will have a class-size limit of twenty-two. Under no circumstances will more than twenty-five students be admitted to any writing-intensive section. For more information, see: <http://www.lehman.edu/academics/general-education/writing-faqs.php>

Student Handbook: Students are strongly encouraged to download and become familiar with the Student Handbook: <http://www.lehman.edu/campus-life/support-services.php>

Class Schedule

Week & Date	Topic	Reading	Due
Week 1. Jan 28	Introduction	Chapter 1	
Week 2. Feb 4	Morphology	Chapter 2	Homework 1
Week 3. Feb 11	Phonetics	Chapter 3	Homework 2
Week 4. Feb 18	NO CLASS	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
Week 5. Feb 25	Phonology	Chapter 4	Homework 3
Week 6. Mar 4	Language Variation	Chapter 7	Homework 4 Group Presentation 1
Week 7. Mar 11	Language Change	Chapter 8	Homework 5 Group Presentation 2
Week 8. Mar 18	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam	Midterm Exam
Week 9. Mar 25	Syntax	Chapter 5	Homework 6
Week 10. Apr 1	Semantics	Chapter 6	Homework 7
Week 11. Apr 8	Pragmatics	Chapter 9	Homework 8
Week 12. Apr 15	Language Acquisition	Chapter 11	Homework 9 Group Presentation 3
Week 13. Apr 22	NO CLASS	NO CLASS	NO CLASS
Week 14. Apr 29	Psycholinguistics	Chapter 10	Homework 10 Group Presentation 4
Week 15. May 6	Sociolinguistics	Reading Materials will be posted	Extra Credit Homework 11 Group Presentation 5
Week 16. May 13	Computational Linguistics	Reading Materials will be posted	Extra Credit Homework 12 Group Presentation 6
Week 17. May 20	Final Exam	Final Exam	Final Exam