

ENG506 Introduction to Linguistics

(3 credit hours)

Course Syllabus

Course Description

Students will learn the basics of each linguistic sub-field: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. Students will also explore the many types of linguistics such as historical linguistics, applied linguistics, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, and so on. By understanding how languages work, students will be able to more effectively compose appropriate text and help students to do the same, should they so choose.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Understand and apply the basics of phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics to words and sentences.
2. Discuss the types of linguistics at an appropriate level for graduate studies
3. Create a final project using one of the types of linguistics that applies to their chosen field of study

Prerequisites/Corequisites

MA core courses: ENG505, ENG525, and ENG526.

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

For this course you will need to obtain the following materials:

Rowe, B. M. & Levine, D. P. (2023). A concise introduction to linguistics (6th Ed.). Routledge.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources.

For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the [Tiffin University Library](#).

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you

dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).
2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays**.
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays**.

Learning Activities

This course is designed to help you experience linguistics. Most weeks will include a writing assignments and discussion forums.

In addition, you will have the opportunity to create your own language using linguistic rules. Each week, you will add more complexity to your created language, known as a Conlang culminating in a short, simple story in the new language at the end of the course.

Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Discussions Activity 1.1 (n/a) Activity 1.2 (30)	Discussions Activity 2.1 (30)	Discussions Activity 3.1 (30)	Discussions Activity 4.1 (30)	Discussions Activity 5.1 (30)	Discussions Activity 6.1 (30)	Discussions Activity 7.1 (30)	210
Assignments Activity 1.3 (50)	--	Assignments Activity 3.2 (50)	Assignments Activity 4.2 (50)	Assignments Activity 5.2 (50)	Assignments Activity 6.2 (50)	Assignments Activity 7.2 (50)	300
Conlang Project Activity 1.4 (20)	Conlang Project Activity 2.3 (70)	Conlang Project Activity 3.3 (70)	Conlang Project Activity 4.4 (70)	Conlang Project Activity 5.3 (70)	Conlang Project Activity 6.3 (70)	Conlang Project Activity 7.3 (120)	490
100	100	150	150	150	150	200	1000

Grading Scale

A: 90-100% | B: 80-89% | C: 70-79% | F: <69%

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Week 1 - Phonetics

- MON - Activity 1.1: Look at Me! - Initial Post
- WED - Activity 1.2: Language vs. Communication - Initial Post
- SAT - Activity 1.1: Look at Me! - Secondary Responses
- SAT - Activity 1.2: Language vs. Communication - Secondary Responses
- SUN - Activity 1.3: International Phonetic Alphabet
- SUN - Activity 1.4: Introduction to Conlang

Week 2 - Phonology

- WED - Activity 2.1: Distinctive Features - Initial Post
- SAT - Activity 2.1: Distinctive Features - Secondary Responses
- SUN - Activity 2.2: Phonemes (Conlang Project)

Week 3 - Morphology

- WED - Activity 3.1: Questions - Initial Post
- SAT - Activity 3.1: Questions - Secondary Responses
- SUN - Activity 3.2: Chapter 4 Exercises
- SUN - Activity 3.3: Morphology (Conlang Project)

Week 4 - Syntax

- WED - Activity 4.1: Syntax & Writing - Initial Post
- SAT - Activity 4.1: Syntax & Writing - Secondary Responses
- SUN - Activity 4.2: Syntax Trees
- SUN - Activity 4.3: Word Order and Sentence Construction (Conlang Project)

Week 5 - Semantics

- WED - Activity 5.1: Puns and Riddles - Initial Post
- SAT - Activity 5.1: Puns and Riddles - Secondary Responses
- SUN - Activity 5.2: Lesson Plan
- SUN - Activity 5.3: Lexicon (Conlang Project)

Week 6 - Pragmatics

- WED - Activity 6.1: Performative Speech - Initial Post
- SAT - Activity 6.1: Performative Speech - Secondary Responses
- SUN - Activity 6.2: Discourse Analysis
- SUN - Activity 6.3: Communication Event (Conlang Project)

Week 7 - Sociolinguistics

- WED - Activity 7.1: DARE Questionnaire - Initial Post
- SAT - Activity 7.1: DARE Questionnaire - Secondary Responses
- SUN - Activity 7.2: Social Identity
- SUN - Activity 7.3: Story (Conlang Project)

Tips for Success

Online learning requires self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery. Your

course is a place for you to grow as you benefit from the expertise, experience, and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge and understanding.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

For More Information:

Be sure to review the [Support, Policies, and Procedures](#) addendum.