



# LING50 Introduction to Linguistics

Department of Linguistics - UC Santa Cruz

Summer Session II 2023 (July 31 - September 1)

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## Staff

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## Goals

Linguistics is the science of language. It's a broad field of study that includes many different kinds of questions, researchers, and methods. This course is designed to address three major goals:

- To **orient you**: What are some of the major questions and findings in Linguistics? Also, what is it like to study linguistics at UCSC?
- To **train you**: You will gain practical experience using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) to transcribe speech sounds.
- To **bust myths**: There are a lot of ideologies surrounding language, and they are often used to underwrite racism and other forms of discrimination. You will learn to recognize and defeat these ideologies.

In the service of these goals, we will survey several areas within Linguistics, including:

- phonetics & phonology
- morphology, syntax & semantics
- sociolinguistics
- psycholinguistics

By the end of the course, you should be able to explain what kind of problems each of those “subdisciplines” works on.

## Style

LING50 SSII is a virtual instruction course.

It is mostly **synchronous**. That means you will attend lectures and sections live on Zoom (two days a week). Other course material is organized into modules that you progress through each week on Canvas.

You are also encouraged to join the course [Discord](#).

## Synchronous Activities: Lecture, Section & Office Hours

### Tuesday Lecture (9-12:30pm PDT)

This meeting is held “live” at 9:00am PDT. Our course period is 210 minutes and includes large-group activities, lecture and demonstration. There will be frequent generous breaks.

### Thursday Section (Various)

50 minutes, small-group activities (~ “section”)

- 9:10 - 10:00 am
- 10:20 - 11:10 am
- 11:30 - 12:20 pm

You will be assigned to a section [after indicating your preference via a survey](#). This will let us work together in small groups of about 12-15.

### Office Hours

Both Matt & Richard will hold live Office Hours during the week, **at times TBD from the above preference survey** (when they are, we will include them here; and on Canvas; -MW, 07/28/23).

We will also be reachable via several modes of [communication](#).

## Graded Activities

This course is managed through Modules in Canvas. For graded activities, the percentage indicated in parentheses is how much weight it carries in assigning your final grade.

### Readings & Textbook

You will be assigned readings from various sources, but primarily from the text [Essentials of Linguistics](#) (2022; 2nd Edition) by Catherine Anderson, Bronwyn Bjorkman, Derek Denis, Julianne Doner, Margaret Grant, Nathan Sanders and Ai Taniguchi. This text is an open-access online textbook; there is nothing to purchase.

### Project & reflect (25%)

Each week you will write a “projection” and then reflect on it later in the discussion boards. Usually, this will ask you to think about what you already know about a topic, and then reflect on how your knowledge changed based on the week’s activities.

### Module quizzes (35%)

In each module, a longer graded Canvas quiz will probe your understanding. You have the opportunity to take this quiz twice.

### Portfolio projects (30%)

- Your Linguistic Autobiography (8%). Write a guided essay on your language background. [2-3 pp].
- Language Report (14%). Prepare a presentation on a language of your choosing, commenting on facets of its grammar as identified in class. [~12-15 slides].
- Transcription Exercises (8%). Complete a series of IPA exercises.

### Engaged participation (10%)

Come to lecture and section and participate. We will explicitly check for your attendance at Thursday's section. In Tuesday's lecture, we will provide a variety of ways for you to check in electronically.

## Communication

- Official **Announcements** will be made on Canvas. Make sure you receive notifications from Canvas.
- We will open the **Discussion Boards** on Canvas for general Q&A, and also to post targeted questions for discussions (as part of [Project & Reflect](#) activities).
- For more informal communication, you can join the **Course Discord** by following this link: [Join Discord](#). You can use this venue to hang out and engage spontaneously with other course participants; ask a quick question; or DM course staff.
- The course staff can also be e-mailed directly. See our contact info [here](#).

## Ethos

Linguistics is a collaborative, scientific discipline. We embrace the value of open, respectful exchange among all course participants.

The course staff want you to feel welcome and unafraid to contribute candidly to class discussions. Do not engage in any behavior that would make others feel uncomfortable or the subject of ridicule. If I detect any such behavior, I will call it out.

As an important facet of this atmosphere, it is important that all course participants -- students and instructional staff alike -- prepare thoughtfully for their interactions with each other. This includes synchronous meetings and asynchronous interactions (Discussion Board, Slack).

If you have any questions or concerns about the above, at any time during the course, please do not hesitate to get in touch with one of the course staff. This remains a challenging time. But we are dedicated to setting up easy, frequent communication between you, the course staff, and your classmates. Suggestions are very welcome, and we are open to making adjustments or adaptations to our practices as the course unfolds.

## Grading

We will assign your grade based on the named activities listed above under [Asynchronous Activities](#). These fall into two broad categories:

- **Participation and formative assessments (70%).** Project & Reflect. Module Quizzes. Engaged participation.
- **Portfolio projects (30%).** For the three projects listed under [Portfolio Projects](#), you will have the opportunity to work through multiple drafts across the class. As a consequence, you will have the opportunity to improve initial submission based on feedback. You will start the Linguistic Profile essay in Week 1, the Transcription Exercises in Week 2, and the Language Report presentation in Week 3.

## Timeliness and “late work”

Timeliness is important to keep you moving through the material in a structured, well-paced manner.

There are target deadlines for all activities and modules on Canvas. However, we will always create flexibility around the deadline. In almost all cases, you will be able to earn at least some credit whenever you turn in the work.

For any activity that accrues points toward your grade - Project & Reflect, Module Quizzes, Portfolio Projects - we will spell out in the Assignment/Module the policy for assigning credit to work submitted after the deadline.

## University Policies and Resources

### Important Summer Session Deadlines

Drop:	Monday, August 7 (tuition reversal)
Request for “W”:	Sunday, August 20 (no tuition reversal)

Summer is unique. You will not be dropped for non-attendance or non-payment. You must drop yourself. Dropping before the deadline results in a full-tuition reversal/refund. Withdraw posts a W for the grade and full tuition is charged (no refund).

For all dates and deadlines, including ‘change of grade option’ (P/NP) and grades due, here is the summer academic calendar: [Summer Academic Calendar \(Deadlines\)](#)

For questions about dropping, requesting a W grade for a course, or withdrawing from the summer quarter, email [summer@ucsc.edu](mailto:summer@ucsc.edu).

### DRC Accommodations

The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations or any other disability-related matter, visit the DRC website: [Disability Resource Center](#).

### Academic Dishonesty

All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC.

In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity

policy, they may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student's transcript.

For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the [Academic Integrity page](#) at the Division of Undergraduate Education.

## Title IX

The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors.

The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. [Information about the Title IX Office](#), the [online reporting link](#), applicable campus resources, reporting responsibilities, the [UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment](#), and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at [titleix.ucsc.edu](http://titleix.ucsc.edu).

The Title IX Office is actively responding to reports and requests for consultation. If you are not currently working with someone in the office and want to make a report/request a consult, you can expect the fastest response by using the [online reporting link](#).

For more information please visit the [Title IX page](#).