

FALL 2023

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NOTE: Students are advised that the following descriptions are specific to the semester indicated, and are meant to supplement, not replace, the general course descriptions given in the General and Graduate Information Catalog and reproduced in our Program Description.

American Sign Language (ASL) Courses

ASL 101—Elementary American Sign Language I {HSL} (Ami Tsuji-Jones)

Continued development of basic receptive and expressive conversational skills in American Sign Language; linguistic structure introduced inductively through mix of lectures and discussion; discussion of history and culture of Deaf community in the U.S. Pre: 101 (or equivalent).

ASL 201—Intermediate American Sign Language I {HSL} (Ami Tsuji-Jones)

Continued development of receptive and expressive conversational skills in American Sign Language; linguistic structure introduced inductively through mix of lectures and discussion; includes discussion of history and culture of Deaf community in the U.S. Pre: 201.

Linguistics (LING) Courses

Ling 102—Introduction to the Study of Language (Various Instructors)

This course provides students an initial opportunity to examine language from an analytical and scientific point of view. Students will learn that there are many misconceptions about language, its development, structure and use. As the course progresses students often reevaluate their own conceptions about language as they learn how it is integrated within cognition, culture, history, and society.

Linguistics 102 is a writing-intensive (WI) course and students will receive WI credit upon successful completion of the course requirements. This course is offered in both a traditional lecture format and through the Unit Mastery program.

Ling 105—Language Endangerment (Various Instructors)

This is an introductory course that focuses on language endangerment, globalization, and indigenous peoples. Many of us in Hawai‘i are familiar with the endangerment and then subsequent revitalization efforts for Hawaiian. Still, few understand that this is a global issue, not only a local one. In fact, there are around 7,000 languages in the world, and some linguists estimate that as many as half of these will become extinct by the end of this century. Therefore, the purpose of this course is to expose students to this gravity of this phenomenon on a global scale. Students will be introduced to case studies on language endangerment and revitalization from around the world and throughout history—from the viewpoints of both indigenous speakers and outsiders.

Linguistics 105 fulfills the Foundation Global (FG(B)) General Education requirement, and students will receive

FG(B) credit upon successful completion of the course requirements. This course is offered in both a traditional lecture format and through the Unit Mastery program.

Ling 150B/150C—Language in Hawai‘i and the Pacific (150B, Unit Mastery format; 150C, sections 1 & 3, Lecture format)

This course offers students an introduction to both historical and contemporary issues concerning language in Hawai‘i and the Pacific, acquainting them with the wealth of resources available on the Mānoa campus, on O‘ahu, and beyond. Focusing on the languages of Polynesia, Micronesia, and Melanesia, the course covers topics such as: language and history, language and culture, structure and sound systems, language contact, pidgins and creoles, language documentation and revitalization, literacy and education, and others.

Please note that section 1 of Ling 150B is offered through the Unit Mastery program and satisfies the HAPs General Education requirement. Ling 150C sections 1 – 3 are offered in the traditional lecture format and satisfy both WI and HAPs General Education requirements.

Ling 320—General Linguistics (Staff)

An introduction to linguistics that will focus on how language works and on the challenges that it presents for research on artificial intelligence, including speech synthesis, speech recognition, natural language processing, machine translation, chatbots, text generation, and the like. The course assumes no background in either linguistics or AI.

LING 410—Articulatory Phonetics (Andrew Cheng)

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the types of speech sounds found in the world’s languages, and to give them the tools and skills to produce, recognize, transcribe, and analyze these speech sounds in settings of linguistic fieldwork, clinical practice, and/or language pedagogy.

Goals: Students who take the course will:

- Learn about human vocal tract anatomy and how it functions in making speech sounds.
- Receive training in describing, transcribing, recognizing and producing speech sounds.
- Learn what *phonemes*, *allophones* and *natural classes of sounds* are, and learn to observe basic phonological processes that govern allophonic alternations.
- Gain knowledge about the acoustic correlates of different types of articulations.

Ling 415/Anth 413—Language & Gender (Aliya Slayton)

How do we use language to express our gendered identities within the context of our culture and society? How does language shape our gendered perceptions and expectations of others? In this course, we will investigate a wide variety of ways that language interacts with gender, both in familiar and less familiar societal contexts and languages. We will discuss differences in language use between people of different genders; stereotypes related to language, gender, and sexual orientation; the role of language as a battleground for women's and transgender rights; and more. The course will culminate in students conducting their own novel research. No previous knowledge of linguistics is required.

LING 422—Intro to Grammatical Analysis (William O'Grady)

How are languages different? How are they the same? Ling 422 asks (and answers) these questions by looking at two things:

1. the structure of words—what types of prefixes and suffixes do they carry, and what is the function of these markers?
2. the linear arrangement (order) of words in different types of sentences.

You'll have a chance to understand what case is, what agreement is, what relative clauses are, and a lot of other things—some from very exotic languages that have truly breath-taking phenomena.

We begin by considering the basic tools of syntactic analysis (syntactic categories, thematic roles, and grammatical relations). We will then use these tools to analyze a variety of syntactic phenomena, including case, agreement, voice (passivization, antipassivization, etc.), causativization, raising, relativization and question formation, among others. Data will be drawn from a variety of languages, including English and various languages of Asia and the Pacific, with some attention to the indigenous languages of Australia, Africa and the Americas.

No prior course in syntax is presupposed, but it is assumed that students have had an introductory course in linguistics that includes training in linguistic analysis (e.g., Ling 320 or its equivalent).

Ling 621—Phonology (Shelece Easterday)

Phonological theory and problems of analysis. Pre: 421 or consent. (Offered Fall Semesters only)

This is a graduate-level course in phonological theory and analysis. Its goals are to provide you with the tools you need to do advanced phonological work and description; to introduce you to major theories and approaches, emphasizing diverse cross-linguistic data and current topics of interest; and to help you further develop your critical thinking and analytical skills. By the end of this course, you should be able to follow a phonology presentation and ask informed questions afterwards; read a phonological study and critically examine the assumptions, methodology, and interpretation of results, identifying limitations and open questions; discriminate between crosslinguistically common and uncommon sound patterns and understand how various theories account for these patterns; posit multiple analyses for a data set and discuss the (dis)advantages of competing

solutions with respect to different theoretical approaches; and construct a phonology problem yourself and argue for a theoretically-informed solution.

Ling 630—Field Methods (Brad McDonnell)

This course is primarily designed to equip graduate students to carry out linguistic fieldwork on un(der)documented languages. It is the first part of a two semester course in which students acquire training in the skills and tools of linguistic fieldwork and language documentation by working with a speaker of a language previously unknown to them to produce a documentation and description of aspects of the language. We will take (or maybe more accurately simulate) a holistic and ethnographic approach and simultaneously create and annotate a corpus of language in use, build a lexical database, and produce a grammatical sketch. Students will learn techniques of data collection, elicitation, management, and analysis by doing language documentation.

Ling 632—Laboratory Research & Quantitative Methods (Amy Schafer)

This course covers commonly used techniques for quantitative research on language, including small-scale studies that might be part of field research and common experimental techniques that can be employed in the lab, in the field, or in online data collection. We'll cover topics such as data visualization in R, conducting common statistical analyses in R, implementing experiments, planning how many participants/speakers you need for your study, counterbalancing and other aspects of experimental design, choosing an appropriate task, dealing with outlier values, co-authorship practices, research ethics, and other aspects of planning, analyzing, and presenting your study. Students will be expected to do weekly reading, present demonstrations, and complete hands-on activities. There are no prerequisites for graduate students.

Ling 640S—Sociolinguistics (Katie Drager)

No description provided at this time.

Ling 641—Professional Development in Linguistics: Professional Development in Teaching Linguistics (Amy Schafer)

How can you provide outstanding, innovative undergraduate teaching, furthering UHM's mission to develop our next generation of leaders, and introducing students to the joy and importance of scholarship in linguistics, while simultaneously building a cutting-edge research program and completing the requirements for your degree? This course aims to help you broaden and deepen your linguistic knowledge and your skill in teaching practices appropriate for introductory courses in linguistics. Students will be expected to do weekly reading, lead workshops and class demonstrations, and produce materials appropriate for use in our 100-level linguistics courses. There are no prerequisites for graduate students.

LING 670—Language Development (Kamil Deen)

Survey of the literature in language acquisition; emphasis on relation to linguistic theory. Pre: 421 and 422, or consent.

Ling 680—Introduction to Language Documentation (Gary Holton)

The task of language documentation is to provide a “comprehensive record of the linguistic practices characteristic of a speech community” (Himmelman 1998:166). With its focus on the linguistic record, language documentation is central to all approaches to linguistics, irrespective of theoretical framework. More recently, with increasing awareness of the global language endangerment crisis, language documentation has come to be recognized as a distinct subfield within the discipline, with its own methodologies, tools, and theoretical underpinnings.

This course provides an introduction to this emerging field. The course covers the history, method, and theory behind language documentation, and the role that language endangerment plays in shaping the field of language documentation. It serves as an introduction to the Language Documentation and Conservation track in the Department of Linguistics, and to graduate study more broadly.

LING 750G—Visioning LangDoc into the Intl Decade of Indigenous Langs (Andrea Berez-Kroeker)

2022 marked the start of the UNESCO-supported International Decade of Indigenous Languages. What does this landmark mean for practitioners of Language Documentation? Can we take this opportunity to re-examine the field and shift our work and priorities in crucial new directions? In this seminar we will consider these questions, especially in light of general trends toward (i) decolonizing academic linguistics and (ii) the theme of the last ICLDC, “Centering Justice in Language Work.” We will take a deep dive into the older and more recent literature on these topics and consider their implications for the way we do Language Documentation, in past, present and future. Grading based on readings, discussions, presentations, and a culminating project resulting in a jointly-authored position paper for publication.

LING 750G(2)—Language and Artificial Intelligence (William O’Grady)

This course, still in development, will focus on language-related AI from the perspective of linguistics. The following themes will underlie many of the readings and much of the discussion that will make up the course.

- What is the place of language-related AI in the larger field of cognitive science?
- What can linguistics contribute to advances in language-related AI?
- What can AI contribute to our understanding of the human language faculty?
- How is AI likely to influence work in particular sub-disciplines of linguistics?

Ling 750G(3)—Grammar Writing (Brad McDonnell)

The descriptive grammar is a pillar of documentary linguistics, an essential part of the “Boasian trilogy,” and yet its position within the field is uncertain. Important questions remain: what is the utility of a reference grammar and how does it relate to the documentation and to language maintenance/revitalization/reclamation efforts? Who is the audience, and what aspects of language structure must be recorded? Can we ever hope to capture speakers’ knowledge of

their language within a single volume? What is the role of linguistic theory?

In this course we critically evaluate these aspects and others of highly regarded descriptive grammars. We also examine new approaches to grammar writing that aim to link to text corpora and media files. The goal is to deconstruct the conventions of grammar writing in order to improve documentary practice.

This course will be useful to anyone planning to write or is in the process of writing a descriptive grammar or even a sketch grammar as a part of a larger project. The course will also help you to make more effective use of grammars as reference materials through understanding their context and limitations. Students are encouraged to bring examples from their own field work to discuss how they can best be represented in a descriptive grammar.

Ling 750X—Topics in the Syntax-Semantics Interface (Shin Fukuda)

In this course, we will critically survey existing literature that describes and analyses how various semantic distinctions are syntactically encoded at nominal, verbal, and clausal levels, across different languages. Possible empirical phenomena to be discussed include definiteness, mass/count distinction, valence alternations, case, complementation, aspect, tense, modality, and information structure. Students are expected to (i) actively engage in class discussions by contributing discussion questions and leading discussions of selected studies and (ii) develop an original research project that describes and analyzes a syntax-semantic interface phenomenon of their choice.