

Linguistics 102: An introduction to the study of language

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

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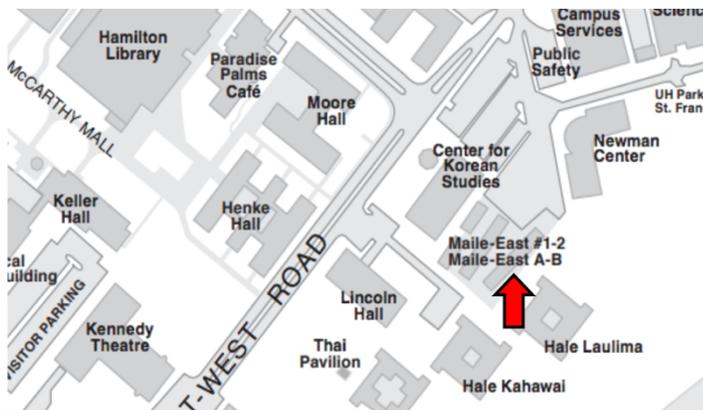
1 Unit mastery format

This is a Unit Mastery course, which means that the structure of the course is **very different** from other undergraduate courses. There are no classes or lectures. Instead, students are in charge of their own learning – students must master the material through reading and regular studying habits. We provide the material in readings which are divided into "units". You must master these units (hence the name Unit Mastery) by passing quizzes in the UM Center, in addition to fulfilling other course requirements outlined below. Students are expected to study independently, track their own progress, and determine their own schedule for completion of course components within the given deadlines.

Time management skills are crucial to succeed in a Unit Mastery course. Although this format involves no scheduled class meetings, one should still expect to devote as much time to a Unit Mastery course as they would a traditional course. **Aside from the regular time needed for reading and studying, students should set aside at least *two to three hours per week* to visit the UM Center.**

1.1 UM Center location

The UM center is located in Maile-East Building B (previously named Temporary Portables), #105. This is just behind the Center for Korean Studies, next to Hale Laulima and Lincoln Hall.



2 Course description

This course is an introduction to the study of language. There are many misconceptions about language, its development, structure, and use. Therefore, the main objective of this course is to provide you with an opportunity to examine language from a linguist's perspective—one from an analytical and scientific point of view. It is our hope that throughout the semester you will reevaluate your own opinions about language as you learn how it is integrated within culture, history, society and cognition.

2.1 Writing Intensive (WI)

This is a writing-intensive (WI) course and students will receive WI credit upon successful completion of the course requirements. Accordingly, a substantial amount of the final grade (50%) will come from writing assignments. More information concerning the writing-intensive component of the course can be found below under section 4, Course Requirements.

2.2 Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- 1) define the fundamental concepts in the study of language,
- 2) refute basic misconceptions about language with reference to these fundamental concepts,
- 3) identify appropriate and reliable sources of information on languages and their structures,
- 4) interpret academic writing in the field of linguistics at a basic level,
- 5) describe in formal prose aspects of language structure and use to the layperson,
- 6) demonstrate habits for self-study and time management that will serve as the bedrock for success in academia and beyond.

3 Required textbook

An Introduction to the Study of Language, (Amy Schafer and Jacob Terrell, eds.) The reader costs \$25.00 and is available for purchase from the UM Center (Maile-East Building B #105). We can only accept cash, and exact change is greatly appreciated.

4 Course requirements

4.1 Gates

The semester is divided into three sections which we refer to as “gates”. Each gate is roughly five weeks apart. You must master at least 12 units throughout the semester. You can receive credit for up to five units during each gate (5+5+5). It is possible to master more than five units during one gate; however, you can only carry extra units forward, not backward.

This means that you may work ahead, ***but it will be difficult to catch up if you fall behind.*** For example, if you master 12 units before the first gate, you will receive credit for five units for the first gate, five for the second, and two for the third. On the other hand, if you master zero units during the first gate, and then ten in the second, you can only receive credit for five units for the second gate and five for the third, a total of 10 units. If you master zero units in the first and second gates, and then 10 units in the third gate, you can only receive credit for five units for the third gate and none for the previous gates.

Again, it is easy to work ahead, but please be cautious of falling behind.

4.2 Quiz format

Quizzes assess your mastery of the readings listed in section 4.3 below. Each quiz consists of ten multiple choice questions. In order to “master” a unit, you must pass a quiz with a grade of 7/10 or higher. If you score below 7 for a particular unit, you may try once more, though not on the same day.

Note 1: It is possible to test for more than one unit per day after you reach the optional units section.

Note 2: Each time you come to the UM classroom to take a quiz, you will pick up a stamp card. Each time you take a quiz, a GA will stamp your card with the date, and whether you passed the quiz. This will allow you to keep track of your progress.

When you retake a quiz (on another day), you will receive a different version for the same unit. If you are not able to master a unit within two attempts, you must move on to the next unit. Each mastered unit will count for 3.5% points toward the final grade of a total of 100% points.

4.3 Readings and Units

The first three units in the reader serve as the introduction to the latter units. Therefore, you must take these three units in order. After mastering the three core units in order (or attempting each at least twice) you may choose from any of the remainder units in the textbook and test in any order.

Obligatory Core units (taken in order):

- Chapter 1, What is language?
- Chapter 2, The sounds of language

- Chapter 3, A brief look at grammar

Optional units (can be tested in any order):

- Chapter 4, Dictionaries
- Chapter 5, Languages of the Pacific
- Chapter 6, An introduction to pidgins and creoles
- Chapter 7, Language variation
- Chapter 8, Bilingualism, codeswitching, and humor
- Chapter 9, Language endangerment
- Chapter 10, Language acquisition
- Chapter 11, Language and the brain
- Chapter 12, Talking to robots, talking to ourselves: Exploring computers and language
- Chapter 13, Writing systems
- Chapter 14, Hawaiian: how an alphabet
- Chapter 15, Animal communication

4.4 Writing assignments

The Writing Intensive (WI) designation is an important component of Linguistics 102. In order to help students fully digest the materials covered throughout the semester, it is necessary to complete a number of written assignments with a satisfactory mark.

There are two types of writing assignments: the academic essay (Essay 1 and Essay 2) and the mini-term paper.

Essays

The two academic essays are due at different points during the first two gates of the semester. They are on a slightly different schedule than the quizzes, so please refer to section 5.2 below for the exact deadlines. Each essay should be roughly 1,000 words in length (about two pages).

The essays can cover any unit in the reader, even if you have not yet tested on a particular unit. To give you some direction, the instructor will provide a series of prompts for each unit. The prompts will be in the form of questions or statements related to the unit, and will be posted in the Resources folder in the Laulima course website. You are free to choose from these prompts, or address an alternative issue related to the materials.

To aid in developing writing skills, you must submit two versions for each essay—a first draft and then a final draft following the suggestions provided by the instructors and teaching assistants. If you do not submit a revision of a draft, the “hypothetical” grade on the first draft will be counted.

Mini-term paper

The mini-term paper is an expansion of one of your previous essays. The paper must be a minimum of 2,000 words (about four pages, excluding title page and references). Again, you should submit a first draft, revise the paper to incorporate our feedback, and then submit a final draft. Additional directions and prompts for the essays and the mini-term paper are available on the course Laulima website in the Resources folder.

Grading of writing assignments

The writing assignments are assessed on a scale of 0 to 10. The hypothetical score on the first draft is only to indicate where you stand at that moment, and how much you need to improve to get a perfect score. In order to earn 10 out of 10 on the second draft, you must take into account all suggestions and corrections provided by the UM staff.

Extra credit opportunity: Students have the opportunity to earn up to 2 points of extra credit (not to exceed a total score of 10) on any of the writing assignments by bringing in a paper draft of the assignment to be graded in-person by a Teaching Assistant in the UM Center. A limited number of appointments will be available during this week. Sign-up instructions will be distributed in week 2. If you elect this option, you may sign up for an appointment, and please come to the UM Center 10 minutes before your appointment time. We may not be able to honor your exact appointment time, so be prepared for a short delay. If you miss your appointment, no make-up appointments will be permitted. To be eligible for the extra credit, you must have the draft of your essay graded in person during one of the scheduled appointments – no exceptions.

4.5 Linguistics Beyond the Classroom (LBC)

The Department of Linguistics has a special program called Linguistics beyond the Classroom. Here, students enrolled in linguistics courses have the opportunity to participate in linguistic experiments conducted by faculty and graduate students at UH. Participation in this program will count for 5% of your final grade. The experiments typically run around 40 minutes. The LBC website can be found here: <http://www.ling.hawaii.edu/lbc/>, where information on available experiments and contact information can be found. It is not mandatory that you participate, but this will help you better understand how research occurs in the field of linguistics. If you choose not to participate in the LBC, you may master an extra unit (13 in total) to make up for this portion of the course requirements. (Note that in Unit Mastery the LBC media option is not allowed.) **LBC reports are due to us by May 07, 2018.**

Students often overlook the LBC component to the grade. Please pay attention to this, and try to get it done early in the semester (if possible). It could make the difference between an A and a B+ grade! To help motivate you to get the LBC done early, you will get a bonus 3% of the grade if you complete the LBC before **April 20th, 2018.**

4.6 Progress & Grading

You should keep track of your progress by checking the Gradebook feature on Lulima. The Teaching Assistants will update this as you take grades. **Note:** Please allow a few days for updates to be reflected on Lulima, or a full week during gate week.

Remember: Quizzes are pass/fail, meaning that your score in the Lulima gradebook for a quiz will be either 100% (for a score of 7/10 or higher) or 0% (for a score of 6/10 or lower). Up to two attempts at each quiz is recorded in the gradebook, but only the higher of the two scores is kept. That is, your score for any given unit will be either 100% or 0%.

The Unit Mastery system is integrating the Lulima Gradebook for the first time in Spring 2018. This will be a huge boon for students, as you will be able to track your progress much more effectively. However, we ask that you be patient, as learning the new system may involve some growing pains for us. If you notice a discrepancy, please alert the Teaching Assistants promptly.

Grading Rubric

Units mastered (quizzes)	42%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each quiz: 3.5% Possible units: 12 Graded pass/fail. (7+ = pass) 	
LBC (or additional unit)	5%
Complete LBC (or extra unit) by April 20, 2018	3%
Essays	30%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15% each 2 essays Graded out of 10 points 	
Mini-term paper	20%

Grading scale	
93+	A
90 – 92.9	A-
88 – 89.9	B+
83 – 87.9	B
80 – 82.9	B-
78 – 79.9	C+
73 – 77.9	C
70 – 72.9	C-
68 – 69.9	D+
63 – 67.9	D
60 – 62.9	D-
59.9 & below	F

Note: A+ grades will be given for exceptional performance

5 Important Dates (see Schedule at a Glance for full set of dates)

January 8	First day of instruction
January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: UM Center closed
January 16	Last day to drop without a 'W'
February 19	President's Day: UM Center closed
March 9	Last day to drop with a 'W'
March 26 – 30	Spring Recess: UM Center closed
May 2	Last day of instruction, but Test Center Open May 3 and May 4

5.1 Gates

You must complete a certain number of units by each gate within the semester. Here are the dates for each gate:

1st Gate: February 16th

2nd Gate: March 23rd

3rd Gate: May 4th

5.2 Writing assignment deadlines

Essay 1	Draft due February 2 Final due February 16
Essay 2	Draft due March 9 Final due March 23
Mini-term paper	Draft due April 20 Final due May 7

6 Policies

6.1 In the UM Center

The UM center is located in Maile-East Building B #105, and is open **Monday-Friday 9am-2pm, except Tuesdays when it is closed from noon-1:30pm (but open 9-noon and 1:30-2pm)**. During gate weeks, we will be open M-F 9-2pm every day, including Tuesdays. Please note that the test center must close by 2pm, and so the latest you may start an exam is 1:50pm.

House Rules:

Turn off cell phones.

No cell phones on desk or in view.

No headphones or music.

No talking.

No eating or drinking.

Your friends may not accompany you into the UM center. (Unless, of course, they too are enrolled in the class.)

If you fail to follow these rules, you will be asked to leave the UM center. Repeated offenses may result in dismissal from the UM center for the rest of the semester.

Always bring your student ID – you cannot receive an exam without your student ID. (Please, no credit cards or driver's licenses.)

The UM center is divided into three sections. To the right you will find desks turned towards the windows. This section is the study area. You may study or review your notes

here (but do so alone, if you need to study in a group, you should go elsewhere). *Note: during gates, this area may not be available for studying.*

When you are ready to take an exam, approach an instructor or Teaching Assistant and request the appropriate exam. You will be required to leave your student ID at the desk while you take the exam. **IMPORTANT: Please write your name in full block letters, not cursive, nor autographs. If we cannot read your name, you cannot get credit!**

In the center of the room there are rows of desks facing the front. This area is reserved for testing. Here you may have nothing on your desk other than a pencil/pen and the exam. When you have finished the exam, return it to the GAs. A GA will grade your exam while you wait. The GAs will mark each question, but not reveal the correct answers.

After your exam has been graded, a GA will call your name and return your exam. If you wish to review your exam, you may do so in the area next to the windows. However, note the following:

Reviewing Area Policies:

1. You may review your exam in this area, and compare it with your notes or textbook.
2. You may ***not*** write or record any of the exam questions.
3. No pens or pencils are allowed in this area.
4. You may not take exams out of UM center.

6.2 Academic honesty

Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism and cheating. Students who violate the University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. ***Policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.***

6.3 Additional accommodations (Kokua)

If you have disability-related needs or concerns, please contact the **Kokua** program (phone: 956-7511, website: <https://www.hawaii.edu/kokua/services.htm>).

6.4 Title IX – Sexual Discrimination in Education

I am personally committed to providing students with an educational environment free of any discrimination or hostility of any kind, and as part of that, I would like to draw your attention to the Title IX office here on campus.

The University of Hawaii is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, the University has staff and

resources on your campus to support and assist you. Staff can also direct you to resources that are in the community.

If you wish to remain ANONYMOUS, speak with someone CONFIDENTIALLY, or would like to receive information and support in a CONFIDENTIAL setting, contact the confidential resources available here:

<http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/resources.html#confidential>

If you wish to REPORT an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking as well as receive information and support, contact:

Dee Uwono (Director and Title IX Coordinator)
Hawai'i Hall 124
2500 Campus Road
Honolulu, HI 96822.

As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. My goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need. For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University's Title IX resources and the University's Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to:

<http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/>.

7 Questions

For any questions please visit the instructor or the teaching assistants during office hours in the UM Center, or by appointment. After hours, feel free to contact us by email at lingum@hawaii.edu.