

Spring 1-15-2015

ENG 3901-001: Language and Linguistics

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Recommended Citation

Markelis, Davia, "ENG 3901-001: Language and Linguistics" (2015). *Spring 2015*. 69.
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Grade Breakdown

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|
| Short paper on language use | 15% | |
| Research paper/presentation | 40% | (30% paper/10% presentation) |
| Notebook entries/Show and Tells | 20% | |
| Midterm | 10% | |
| Final | 5% | |
| Attendance | 10% | |

Attendance

I allow for excused absences if they are properly documented. These include approved university activities and illness. Unexcused absences are pretty much all others—oversleeping, finishing papers for other classes, out-of-town trips “because I’m homesick.” More than one unexcused absence will lower your attendance grade by one grade. More than two unexcused absences will lower your attendance grade by two grades. And so on.

Participation

I like an active, vocal class. If your grade at the end of the semester is borderline, and if you are a great participator, whether by responding to the readings or sharing your notebook, I will remember that.

Late Papers/Make-up Exams

Late papers may be penalized.

No making up the midterm or final.

University Policies

(1) Academic integrity - Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>) Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

(2) Students with disabilities - If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by Ninth Street Hall, Room 2006, or call 217-581-6583.

(3) The Student Success Center - Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/~success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to 9th Street Hall, Room 1302.

Using the Writing Center

I encourage you to use the EIU Writing Center located at 3110 Coleman Hall. This free resource provides one-to-one conferences with writing consultants who can help you with brainstorming, organizing, developing support, documenting, and revising your papers.

When a reading is marked, it means you must come to class prepared to discuss it that day. Occasionally I will ask that you read an internet article. I've given you the URL under the appropriate day.

1st week

Introductions

Naming practices

Chapter 1, Coming to terms (Sociolinguistics)

2nd week

What was the original language (26 Linguist)

What language did Adam and Eve speak (34 Linguist)

Chapter 8—Name, Sex, and Religion (only pp 97-105 Sociolinguistics)

Chapter 5, Languages great and small (Sociolinguistics)

What's exciting about Icelandic? (253 Linguist)

3rd week

Where did English come from (227 Linguist)

Chapter 2, Variation and change (Sociolinguistics)

Short TEDx talk

4th week

Where does grammar come from (60 Linguist)

Do all languages have the same grammar (64 Linguist)

What happens if you are raised without language (110 Linguist)

<http://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-universal-grammar.htm>

Sentence combining

5th week

Chapter 3, Perceptions of language (Sociolinguistics)

What's the right way to put words together (85 Linguist)

Short Paper Due

Why do American Southerners talk that way (132 Linguist)

Are dialects dying (196 Linguist)

What's the difference between dialects and languages (21 Linguist)

Isn't Pidgin English just bad English (47 Linguist)

6th week

Chapter 4, Protecting Language (Sociolinguistics)

Is British English the best English (89 Linguist)

What is Gullah (191 Linguist)

What is Cajun and where did it come from (182 Linguist)

Spanglish: <http://www.npr.org/2012/08/10/158570815/puedes-believe-it-spanglish-gets-in-el-dictionary>

and

<http://www.latinpost.com/articles/5961/20140115/spanglish-english-diluted-spanish.htm>

7th week

African American vernacular English (sometimes known as Ebonics)

<http://www.linguisticsociety.org/content/what-ebonics-african-american-english>

and

<http://www.pbs.org/speak/seatosea/americanvarieties/AAVE/hooked/>

Review of weeks 1 - 7

Introduction to research project

8th week

midterm

Slang : come up with a list of your favorite/least favorite examples

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052702303610504577418660113838998>

9th week

How many different kinds of writing systems are there? (51 Linguist)

Where did writing come from? (56 Linguist)

handout

Do deaf people everywhere use the same sign language (114 Linguist)

http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/sign-language-that-african-americans-use-is-different-from-that-of-whites/2012/09/17/2e897628-bbe2-11e1-8867-ecf6cb7935ef_story.html

10th week

Pages 9 to 70 (Gender and Language)

Pages 73 to 148 (Gender and Language)

11th week

Do animals use language (72 Linguist)

film

Computer languages

Does anybody here speak Klingon? (287 Linguist)

What ever happened to Esperanto? (64 Linguist)

handout

12th week

Chapter 7, Multilingualism (Sociolinguistics)

TBA (I will be out of town)

13th week

Chapter 6, Loyalty, maintenance, shift, loss, and revival (Sociolinguistics)

Is there a language crisis in the United States (172 Linguist)

What's the future of Spanish in the United States (177 Linguist)

14th week

Presentation of research projects

Presentation of research projects

15th week

Presentation of research projects

Presentation of research projects

Final Exam Monday, May 4th 10:15 to 12:15

Final research projects are due Tuesday, May 5th. Feel free to turn them in earlier.

NOTE: I may make minor changes to this syllabus in order to suit the needs of the class. Changes will always be announced in advance.