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ENG 5091-001: Studies in Language, Linguistics, and Literacy/Linguistics for Teachers of English Language Learners

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English 5091B, Studies in Language, Linguistics, and Literacy
Linguistics for Teachers of English Language Learners
Coleman Hall 3691 W 7:00 to 9:30
Dr. Daiva Markelis/dmmarkelis@eiu.edu
Office: Coleman Hall 3375
Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:00 – 1:00
Thursdays 11:00 – 2:00
and by appointment

Course Description

Our primary focus in this course will be to make connections between what we understand about language and how we might apply this knowledge to help student English learners in a multilingual classroom. The course will include a brief introduction into the field linguistics. Requirements include a midterm paper and a final research project (ten or more pages) on one of the following topics: language acquisition, language structure and variation, or language use. There will also be a final exam as well as in-class and homework problems and exercises.

Required Textbooks

Essential Linguistics by Freeman and Freeman

The Routledge Handbook of Second Language Acquisition by Gass and Mackey

Requirements

1. Read the assigned material by the assigned date. Contribute to class discussion regarding the assigned material and other linguistic issues brought up in class.
2. Complete one larger research paper and present your findings to the class.
3. Present a chapter of your choice from *The Routledge Handbook of Second Language Acquisition* or another book approved by me. Lead discussion on that chapter. (20-30 minutes.)
4. Take a mid-term exam.
5. Complete 4 brief reaction papers on specific questions related to the readings.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Excused medical or legal absences must be accompanied by appropriate documentation. If you become suddenly ill or the victim of emergency circumstances, please phone or email me as soon as possible and stay in touch. More than one absence may mean this is not the semester for you to be taking a graduate seminar.

Grade Breakdown

Research paper and oral presentation	50% (40% for paper, 10% for presentation)
Presented chapter	20%
Mid-term exam	10%
Reaction papers	10%
Participation	10%

Plagiarism

Any paper with your name on it signifies that you are the author--that the wording and major ideas are yours, with exceptions indicated by either quotation marks and/or citations. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use (appropriation and/or imitation) of others' materials (words and ideas). Evidence of plagiarism will result in one or more of the following: a failing grade for the assignment, an F in the course, and a report filed with the Judicial Affairs Office.

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.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS for 5091

FINAL RESEARCH PAPER/PRESENTATION 50%

Paper (40%)

First things first: the paper is due at the end of the semester, probably the Wednesday of finals week—the day you would be taking the final if, indeed, I was giving a final. Which I'm not, but don't tell anyone. You can turn your paper in any time, though if you hand it to me next week I will be highly suspicious.

Secondly: yes, the paper will incorporate outside sources. The more, the merrier. Though it's also true that too many cooks spoil the soup. What you want is a paper that asks and answers a pertinent research paper, is grounded in theory and observation, a paper that shows off your knowledge of important concepts and at the same time reveals something new about your chosen topic/area. The number and types of sources will depend on the kind of research you're doing.

Thirdly: It's not how long you make it; it's how you make it long. That said, you probably can't say something new and profound in fewer than **fifteen pages**.

Presentation (10%)

Should be about fifteen minutes long. The purpose of the presentation is not to reveal all of your secrets, but to present enough to get feedback and ideas you can then apply to your paper.

MIDTERM 10%

The midterm will deal with material we've studied up until and including the seventh week. There will be several essay-type questions, some short-answer questions, and some multiple choice questions.

PRESENTATION OF SELECTED CHAPTER 20%

We'll talk more about this in class, but, basically, you choose a chapter from the Routledge book or an article from a journal or book approved by me, summarize the chapter/article, and tell the class why it's pertinent to your future work in the classroom.

REACTION PAPERS 10%

Papers should be no longer than 2 typed, double-spaced pages and should focus on analysis, though you may begin your reaction paper by summarizing some of the material.

PARTICIPATION 10%

Read the assigned material I have a finely tuned bull-shit detector, so overly vague and general will not fly. On the other hand, no one likes a smarty-pants. Be respectful, thoughtful, and succinct. Help each other out. Participation is not a blood sport.