

ENGL 3370-115 Introduction to Linguistics

Texas A&M University – Central Texas

Fall 2023 1st 8-Week Session

Instructor: Dr. Amber Dunai

Email: Canvas Course Email

Alternative Email: adunai@tamuct.edu

Office: Heritage Hall 204 K

Mode of Instruction: 100% Online

Meeting Times: N/A

Office Hours: Virtual meetings are available by appointment.

Important: Pacing of 8-Week Courses

If you have taken an 8-week course before, you know that the workload is the same as that of a 16-week course, but is completed twice as fast. For this reason, I recommend that you think of this 8-week class as similar to taking two classes, since you will be completing the equivalent of two weeks' worth of work (including reading and assignments) each week.

Course Description

A study of descriptive linguistics revealing the nature and scope of the characteristics and complexities of human language. Much of the course consists of learning the phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics of modern English. Attention also focuses on the nature and diversity of the rule-bound creativity underlying the tacit systematic use of human language. Prerequisite(s): [ENGL 1301](#).

Objectives

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Communicate a clear understanding of the major principles, interests, and aims informing descriptive linguistics as an approach to language study.
- Describe key concepts and methods in major areas of linguistic study, including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, and language variation.
- Connect areas of linguistic study in meaningful and sophisticated ways, explaining how concepts build on and illuminate one another.
- Apply linguistic concepts and methods covered in class to data sets as well as everyday language.
- Defend your arguments in thoughtful and well-organized analyses supported by reference to and discussion of appropriate evidence/sources.

Required Textbooks

The textbook must be purchased in the edition listed below.

Hope C. Dawson, Antonio Hernandez, and Cory Shain, eds., *Language Files* (13th ed.), ISBN: 9780814258354

Any additional readings will be made available on TAMU-CT library e-reserves or Canvas.

Course Schedule

Readings (including the relevant “mini-lectures” posted to Canvas) must be completed by Friday of the week during which they are assigned, when assignments related to the week’s reading are also due (by 11:59 PM), unless otherwise indicated. However, it is important that you set additional deadlines for yourself based on your own unique schedule and the amount of time you will require to successfully complete the week’s written assignments. I am available, over email or Teams, to discuss strategies and scheduling which will help you to be successful in the class. Weekly content will be released in four units of two weeks each, and each unit will be made available by the Friday before the unit officially begins to allow sufficient time for planning.

Abbreviation Key: LF (Language Files 13)

Unit 1: Introduction to Descriptive Linguistics, Phonetics, and Phonology

WEEK 1 **9/1:** LF 1.0-1.5; Introduction Post, Academic Integrity Quiz, and Exercise 1 Due

WEEK 2 **9/8:** LF 2.0-2.5; Exercise 2 Due

WEEK 3 **9/15:** LF 3.0-3.5; Exercise 3 and Exam 1 Due

Unit 2: Morphology and Syntax

WEEK 4 **9/22:** LF 4.0-4.4; Exercise 4 Due

WEEK 5 **9/29:** LF 4.5 & 5.0-5.4; Exercise 5 Due

WEEK 6 **10/6:** LF 5.5, Exercise 6 and Exam 2 Due

Unit 3: Semantics, Pragmatics, and Language Variation

WEEK 7 **10/13:** LF 6.0-6.4 & 7.0-7.3; Exercise 7 Due

WEEK 8 **10/20:** LF 7.4-7.5 & 10.0-10.5; Exercise 8 and Exam 3 Due

Grades

20% Exercises

25%: Exam 1

30%: Exam 2

25%: Exam 3

Grading scale: 90-100: A; 80-89: B; 70-79: C; 60-69: D; 0-59: F

Major Assignment Due Dates

Exam 1: Friday, September 15 (11:59 PM)

Exam 2: Friday, October 6 (11:59 PM)

Exam 3: Friday, October 20 (11:59 PM)

Exercises

Throughout the semester, you will be assigned exercises from *Language Files* and/or short writing prompts so that you can practice and explore concepts from the readings and mini-lectures and prepare for the exams at the end of each unit. You will find instructions for each exercise in the assignment links on Canvas. Students will be assigned a total of eight exercises over the course of the semester. The Academic Integrity Quiz and required Introductions discussion post due during Week 1 will also count toward the Exercises average. This brings the total number of Exercise scores to ten.

Exams

The three exams will be due during Weeks 3, 6, and 8. The exams will consist of several prompts; these prompts are designed to test your comprehension of and ability to apply ideas and methods introduced in unit content and assigned readings. Questions will be in short answer and short essay format. These exams will be open book and open note, but are not to be completed in collaboration with others.

Exam 1 will cover readings and topics from Unit 1.

Exam 2 will cover readings and topics from Unit 2.

Exam 3 will cover readings and topics from Unit 3.

Instructor Availability

You are welcome to contact me with questions or comments via email (but please send emails to me via the Canvas messaging system, unless the site is down). I endeavor to answer all emails within 24 hours of receiving them, not counting weekends and holidays. Office hour meetings are available by appointment via Teams. You may request an appointment by email. I do ask that any appointment request be made *at least 24* hours in advance of the desired meeting time to guarantee that I have time to review and respond to them. Do not assume that the meeting will take place unless I have responded to your request, confirmed the time, and sent you a Teams invitation.

Online Course Etiquette

Students are to maintain a high level of professionalism and respect when interacting with one another and the instructor, whether over email, during a virtual meeting, or on the discussion

board. The same expectations for professional and respectful behavior apply online as in the face-to-face classroom. Disagreements are a normal and often productive aspect of academic discourse, and differences in viewpoint relevant to course content may be expressed and explored during discussion activities. However, participants engaged in discussion must remain respectful to all parties involved and focused on topics relevant to the activity at hand.

Late Submission Policy

Generally, I do not accept late/make-up work for assignments unless the student has missed the deadline due to an excused reason. However, I will consider granting extensions *before the deadline has passed* if students are facing challenges that merit one. Whenever possible, students should notify me **before** the assignment deadline if they believe they cannot meet it. At that time, I will determine whether an extension is appropriate and, if so, set a new deadline.

After a new deadline for the assignment is established, you must abide by this deadline or else receive a zero on the assignment. In all situations involving missed and/or extended deadlines, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor if any issues arise. If I do not hear from you and do not have your submission after a deadline passes, I will assume that you do not intend to turn in the assignment and will put a zero in the gradebook.

Additionally, extensions must be requested in a timely manner. If a student has not requested an extension within two calendar days (48 hours) of the deadline, the grade will remain zero unless the student can provide a reasonable explanation regarding why it was not possible to contact me sooner.

Attendance Policy

Because this is an asynchronous 100% online class, there is no set meeting time. However, students are encouraged to log in to the site daily (excluding weekends and holidays) in order to view materials, check email, and complete assignments in a timely manner.

Program Assessment Statement

To ensure the learning outcomes are met in the English Department, there is a program-wide artifact collection process. To that end, some of the projects you complete this semester may be used for programmatic assessment. Please note that all efforts will be made to keep your identity anonymous; as such, all identifying markers will be removed from your work if used for programmatic assessment. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Dunai.

Important University Dates

For important university dates, see <https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>.

Technology Statement

Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari browsers. Canvas will run on Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS, android, or any other device with a modern web browser. **Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>] by clicking on the “TAMUCT Online Canvas” tile. You will then log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help tab, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can search the support articles or use the Email, Call, or Chat buttons at the bottom of the support pop-up to contact the Canvas Help Desk.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio requires use of the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in installed.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

Web Chat: [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

Warrior Center for Student Success

The Warrior Center for Student Success is a comprehensive academic support department at A&M-Central Texas, dedicated to fostering an environment of excellence and empowerment among its student body. The center offers a wide range of programs and services to ensure every student reaches their full potential, and is a haven for students seeking guidance, resources, and a strong support network to excel in their educational journey.

ADA Access and Accommodations

Texas A&M University-Central Texas ensures that students with disabilities have equal access to educational opportunities by providing appropriate accommodations and support services. If you believe you have a physical, learning or socio-emotional disability requiring reasonable accommodations, please visit [Access and Inclusion](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html] for more details or contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential.

Success Coaching and Peer Mentoring

Our experienced Success Coaches work one-on-one with students to develop personalized action plans, set academic goals, and build effective study strategies, time management skills, and resilience. Our Peer Mentors provide a valuable support system, offering guidance, encouragement, and a relatable perspective to help students navigate their academic and personal challenges. For more details call 254-501-5836 or 254-501-5928 or visit [Academic Support](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html]. Click the link to schedule a session (virtual or in-person) with a success coach bit.ly/3q7uB50 or visit WH, 111.

Testing Services

We offer a secure and comfortable environment for students and members of the community to take courses and distance learning exams, as well as placement tests and professional certification exams. Our Testing Service also offers resources and support referrals for testing related challenges (test anxiety, learning disabilities, etc.) and supports all approved ADA accommodations. Call (254) 519-5830 or visit the [Testing Center](https://www.tamuct.edu/testing-center/) [https://www.tamuct.edu/testing-center/].

Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction Services

Our team of qualified Tutors and Supplemental Instructors assist students in various non-writing subjects, promoting academic comprehension and enhancing learning outcomes. Click the link to schedule a tutoring session with a TAMUCT tutor (virtual or in-person) or view tutor availability bit.ly/43Q6wNz. You may also chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for a variety of subjects through our partnership with Tutor.com, an online tutoring platform that is free to all TAMUCT students. To learn more please visit [Tutoring Services](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html#tutoring) [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-support.html#tutoring] or call (254) 501-5836 or visit the Tutoring Hub in Warrior Hall, 111.

Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University-Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty,

and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Student Conduct Office. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more information regarding the [student conduct process](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html),
[<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas),
[<https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas>].

Instructor's Note on Academic Integrity:

This course uses the 9th edition of MLA for formatting and citations. You can access the guidelines online at the [Purdue Online Writing Lab \(OWL\) website](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html):
[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html].

For more information on what academic integrity is and isn't, see the Student Affairs [website](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-integrity.html):
[<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/academic-integrity.html>]

If you have questions about using and citing sources, please ask. I am always happy to explain how to cite sources correctly and to provide any clarification needed regarding questions of academic integrity. Assignments completed for this course are expected to cite sources properly, to only represent the work of the student who submitted it (except in cases of group work/authorized collaboration), and not to have been previously submitted for credit in a course. For some assignments, such as exams, collaboration may be explicitly prohibited, and any unauthorized collaboration during completion of these assignments would be considered violations of academic integrity standards. Violations of academic integrity standards will result in a grade of zero on the assignment in question and a report to the Office of Student Conduct. All major writing assignments will be checked for originality when they are uploaded to the assignment link.

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpld=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlssso&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=https) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpld=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlssso&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=https>]

%3a%2f%2fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2fSubmit%2fStart%2f53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Records and Admissions Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Records and Admissions Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Records and Admissions Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Incompletes

Incompletes are only assigned due to unexpected emergency situations that occur after the final drop date (for example, an emergency medical situation experienced by the student). If you simply find yourself overwhelmed by the semester's demands, you do not qualify for an incomplete. If you experience an emergency that you believe will prevent you from completing the semester's work before the final drop date, you are expected to drop. If you experience an unexpected emergency situation *after* the final drop date that you believe will prevent you from completing the semester's work, please contact me as soon as possible so that we can discuss whether you qualify for an incomplete.

Pregnant and/or Parenting Students Rights and Accommodations

A&M-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs, (254) 501-5909, can assist students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting by provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodations. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible through the Pregnancy & Parenting webpage [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. For more information, please visit Student Affairs [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. If you would like to read more about these requirements and guidelines online, please visit the website [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 specifically prohibits discrimination against a student based on pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from any of these conditions

[<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.html>].

Students experiencing any form of discrimination due to any of these conditions are encouraged to reach out to the Title IX Coordinator, 254.519.5716, titleix@tamuct.edu, Founders Hall 317B, or the Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 254.501.5909, Warrior Hall 105.

Title IX Rights and Reporting Responsibilities

A&M-Central Texas is committed to creating a safe and open learning environment for all students. If you or another student has experienced any form of gender discrimination or sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and/or sex-based stalking, help and support are available. Our university strongly encourages all members of our campus community to report incidents and seek support for gender discrimination and sexual misconduct through the Title IX Office. You may contact the Title IX Office at 254.519.5716, titleix@tamuct.edu, Founders Hall 317B, or learn more by visiting the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html>].

Please be aware that that under [Title IX](#), [Texas Senate Bill 212](#), and [System Regulation 08.01.01](#), [<https://policies.tamus.edu/08-01-01.pdf>] all university employees are mandated reporters and are required to disclose information about suspected or alleged violations as listed above and defined in System Regulation 08.01.01. If the Title IX Office receives information about an incident, they will reach out to offer information about resources, rights, and procedural options as a member of the campus community. Although I have an obligation to report, you will, in most cases, control how your case will be handled. When working with the Title IX Office you will have access to resources and accommodations but also have the opportunity to express if you wish to move forward with an investigation. Our goal is to make sure you are aware of the options available to you as a student. Community members are not required to respond to this outreach.

If you or another student wishes to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact the [Student Wellness & Counseling Center](#), [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html>], 254.501.5955, or swacc@tamuct.edu, located in Warrior Hall Room 207L or the Student Support Advocate, 254.501.5978 or ssa@tamuct.edu, located in founder Hall Room 317D.

The University Writing Center

Located in Warrior Hall 416 and online, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University–Central Texas (A&M–Central Texas) is a free service open to all A&M–Central Texas students. The face-to-face hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday and Thursday in Warrior Hall 416. Online tutoring is available Monday thru Thursday from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and from 6:00-9:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via WOnline [<https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

University Library & Archives

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 350 electronic databases containing approximately 1,203,947 eBooks and 134,750 journals, in addition to the 96,879 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams or in-person at the library. [Schedule an appointment here](https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments) [<https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments>]. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group workspaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](#)

[<https://tamuct.libguides.com/index>]

A Note About Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Wellness and Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html>].

Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2) online

[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/bit) website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/bit>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5805.

Safezone

SafeZone provides a public safety application that gives you the ability to call for help with the push of a button. It also provides Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate emergency information quickly via push notifications, email, and text messages. All students automatically receive email and text messages via their myCT accounts.

Downloading SafeZone allows access to push notifications and enables you to connect directly for help through the app.

You can download SafeZone from the app store and use your myCT credentials to log in. If you would like more information, you can visit the [SafeZone](http://www.safezoneapp.com) website [www.safezoneapp.com].

To register SafeZone on your phone, please follow these 3 easy steps:

1. Download the SafeZone App from your phone store using the link below:
 - iPhone/iPad: [<https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756>]
 - Android Phone / Tablet
[<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp>]
2. Launch the app and enter your myCT email address (e.g. {name}@tamuct.edu)
3. Complete your profile and accept the terms of service

For updates on COVID information, please monitor the University website
[<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]

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The professor reserves the right to amend this syllabus at any time. If changes are required, students will be notified immediately and provided with a copy of the updated section(s).