Ling 203: Languages of the World
Fall 2010

Course Information:
Ling 203
MWF 10:10-11:00
Room: Gore Hall 115

Instructor Information:
Darrell Larsen
dlarsen@udel.edu
302-831-8203
46 E. Delaware Ave., Room 103

Office Hours:
MW 11:00-12:00 or by appointment

Class Webpage
http://udel.edu/~dlarsen/ling203/
(note that there is no ‘www’ here—it will not work if you enter it in)

The class webpage will have a variety of helpful materials, including notes from class (some, not all), an updated schedule, and links to various websites which are either used in class or otherwise related to the content and learning goal of the class.

Course Description:
This course will examine the differences which exist across languages of the world and look at various types of properties which exist in human languages. We will examine differences and properties largely in areas of phonetics, phonology, morphology and syntax, while touching on other aspects of language as well. We will see how languages can be classified both genetically and typologically.

Students will also write up a language report on their own. To this end, students will investigate a particular language or group of languages in depth, relying on literature for the language(s) in question and possibly native speakers as well.

Programmatic Learning Goals for the B.S. In Cognitive Science

By the end of the Cognitive Science Major, students will…

1. Communicate scientific ideas and methods (i.e., discuss and solve scientific problems and/or provide data or arguments in support of a scientific hypothesis) clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing. (Gen Ed Goal 1)
2. Critically assess scientific research (primary source articles and/or lab reports), methods, and/or problem solving related to cognitive science, linguistics, and speech pathology. (Gen Ed Goal 2)
3. Synthesize multiple methodological or disciplinary research perspectives to analyze a scientific problem and make improvements that advance the issue, debate, or research.
Learning Goals for Ling 203: Languages of the World

By the end of this course, students will be able to...

1. Attain effective skills in oral and written communication. (Programmatic Goal 1; Gen Ed Goal 1)
2. Learn to think critically to solve problems. (Programmatic Goal 2; Gen Ed Goal 2)
3. Be able to work and learn both independently and collaboratively. (Gen Ed Goal 3)
4. Develop the intellectual curiosity, confidence, and engagement that will lead to lifelong learning. (Gen Ed Goal 6)

Required Texts:


Recommended Texts:


An introductory linguistics textbook, such as the following:

I will additionally provide outside materials throughout the semester to supplement the course.

Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Grade scale:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
<td>93-100 = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework / Quizzes</td>
<td>90-92 = A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Report</td>
<td>87-89 = B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>83-87 = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>80-82 = B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>77-79 = C+</td>
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Attendance & Participation:

- Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class each day. If you show up late, it is your responsibility to let me know immediately after class or you may remain marked absent.
- Students absent from class for an officially excused reason will not be penalized for the date in question; rather, the date in question will not figure into the grade at all. To have an official absence, you should report the reason, along with supporting evidence, to the dean’s office of your college. The office will then notify all of your instructors.
• Students who are officially excused are still required to complete the assignments and take any tests they missed.
• If you miss a class, you must ask a classmate for an explanation of what we learned that day. I will not reteach the material during office hours or via e-mail.
• Students’ participation during class will be noted daily.

Homework:
• Late assignments will not be accepted. If you miss a class for any reason, it is your responsibility to e-mail me to ask about homework assignments. If an assignment is due the day you are absent, it must be e-mailed to me by the beginning of class time.
• Working together on homework is allowed and even encouraged; however, copying of each other’s answers is not allowed.

Reading:
• Students should complete all assigned reading before the class period for which it is assigned. Students should be prepared to discuss the reading during class each day. If you miss a class for any reason, it is your responsibility to e-mail me to ask about reading assignments.

Exams:
• Failure to show up for an exam will result in an exam grade of 0. The only exceptions are i) in case of an officially-excused absence (which must be cleared through your dean’s office), and ii) in cases where a student has already made an alternative arrangement with me to take the test at another time.

Other Policies:
• Students shall adhere to the Academic Honesty policy of the University of Delaware, which may be found at http://www.udel.edu/stuguide/10-11/code.html. Students acting in violation of this code will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Engaging in academic dishonesty on an assignment or exam will result in a minimum of a 0 for that assignment or exam.
• Any student needing any accommodations for reasons of a disability, family situation (e.g. parent with children), etc. should notify me as soon as possible.