Introduction to the Study of Language
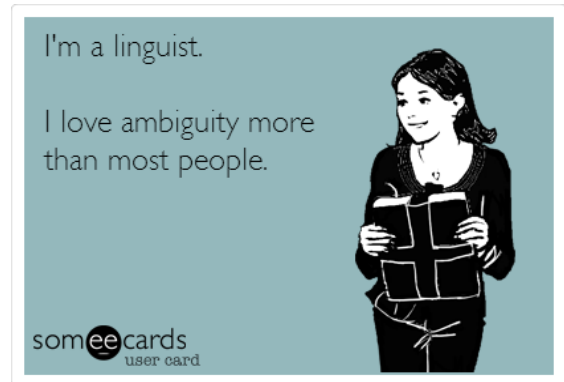
LING L103

Lectures: M/W 3–3:50p
              Ballantine Hall (BH) 310

Professor: **Dr. Ann Bunger** (she)
Email: acbunger@indiana.edu
Office: BH 520
Student Drop-In hours: M–R 10-11a,
                        or by appointment

Associate Instructors

	Joel Jenkins (he/they)		**Joshua Sims** (he)	
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Student Drop-In Hours:	T/R 1–2p BH 521, or by appointment		W 12:30–2:30p BH 521, or by appointment	
Sections:	F 10:20a	BH 318	F 9:10a	BH 241
	F 3:00p	BH 241	F 11:30a	BH 142
	F 4:10p	BH 241	F 12:40p	BH 338

Undergraduate Teaching Assistants:

Cordelia Ellis (she)
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Canvas: canvas.iu.edu
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A few notes about communication:

Personal e-mail is the best way to reach members of the instructional team. It will likely take us longer to get back to you if you message us through Canvas. Some tips:

- Include our course number—L103—in your email subject and a word or two about the topic of your email.
- Keep in mind that emails are professional communications. Include a greeting (e.g., Hello Professor Bunger!) and a sign-off. Don't put things in writing that you wouldn't say out loud.
- If you'd like to send the same email to multiple instructors, use CC rather than sending separate emails.

In addition, everyone on the instructional team has weekly **student office hours**. These will be casual open sessions—you are welcome to drop in to ask questions or just to say hi. You should also feel free to contact us to set up something that works better for you.

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to Linguistics, the scientific study of human language. We will consider language as a structured system of form and meaning that is shaped both by its function as a means of sociocultural communication and by features of the human mind that guide its acquisition and use. During this course, you will be challenged to reconsider commonly held myths about language. In addition, you will be asked to perform analyses on linguistic data from a variety of languages and will develop critical thinking skills necessary for linguistic analysis. This course counts toward fulfillment of the S&H Breadth requirement.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the semester, you will be able to:
- Describe and define linguistic concepts and terminology.
- Use appropriate linguistic terminology to discuss language phenomena.
- Identify and categorize linguistic units (e.g., phonemes, morphemes, lexical categories, syntactic constituents) and learn how to represent them appropriately.
- Carry out linguistic analyses on data drawn from a variety of languages and at a variety of levels of discreteness (sounds, words, sentences, conversations).
- Interpret and create linguistic rules that apply to different components of language.
- Make connections across domains of linguistic analysis, e.g., correlating phonological behavior with morphological structures.
- Given two or more hypotheses about a set of data, develop an argument in support of one of them.
- Evaluate the ways you have grown as a learner during this course.

Teaching and Learning Methods

This course has been designed to engage you actively as you develop an understanding of the material. Foundational concepts will be introduced in lectures and readings, and you will practice applying these concepts by participating in problem-solving activities during class and on assignments. In particular, the smaller Friday Sections will provide opportunities for active engagement in linguistic analysis and/or discussion. These sessions are not limited to review or homework preparation. Feel free to ask questions at any time!

The Canvas site for our course is divided into weekly Modules. Each week's module will include an outline of notes for the week, bonus material for you to read, watch, and explore, discussion boards to check your understanding of the material, and any other current assignments. We will not be posting slides to Canvas, but it may be helpful for you to use the weekly outline to guide your reading and note-taking. You will also find a schedule for the semester and links to individual assignments in the lower half of the course homepage.

Course Requirements

We will be trying out a new textbook this semester: Essentials of Linguistics, 2nd edition (https://ecampusontario.pressbooks.pub/essentialsoflinguistics2/). This is an open educational resource (OER), which means that it is free for us to use. Readings will be linked from the schedule on our course home page and in each weekly module. You can also download the entire textbook from the link provided above. If you are using a screen reader, the PressBooks version would be best.

The readings listed on this syllabus may change as the semester progresses. Supplemental readings will be made available on Canvas.

Evaluation

Quizzes	10%
Language Journal	20%
Homework Assignments	30%
Exams	40%
extra credit	up to 2 pts added to final course grade

Quizzes

Each week in your Friday Section you will take a short quiz on topics from that week of classes. These are meant to provide a low-stakes review of key concepts and skills—if you've been keeping up with the material, we expect them to be easy. There will be 14 quizzes across the semester, and your lowest 4 quiz grades will be dropped. If you miss a quiz for any reason, you will not be able to make it up.

Language Journal

In the language journals you will review tricky concepts and make connections between course materials and the rest of the world. All language journal submissions will be due by 5p on Thursdays. In addition to submitting each journal entry, you should come to your Friday section prepared to talk about your response to the prompt. There will be 12 prompts across the semester, and your lowest 2 scores will be dropped.

Homework Assignments

There will be 7 homework assignments, many of which will consist of problem sets in which you will be asked to apply the tools of linguistic analysis to data from real languages. The homework assignment with the lowest grade will be dropped, so that only 6 will count toward your final grade.

Unless otherwise specified, you are expected to submit your assignments on Canvas by the beginning of class on the day they are due. Late homeworks will receive a lowered grade (10% off for each day late). Give your files an informative file name, something like—Smith HW1—and be sure to write your name and the time of your discussion section on all assignments. Assignments should be typed with reasonable formatting (when in doubt, go with double-spaced 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins on all sides).

You are always welcome to visit the instructors during office hours to discuss assignments. In addition, we encourage you to discuss your homework assignments with other students who are currently taking the course. See the **Collaboration Policy** for more details.

Exams

There will be two (noncumulative) midterm exams that will be taken in Friday sections and a cumulative final exam during the exam period. All exams will be multiple-choice. Keep up with readings. Learn the important terms and concepts. Know how to do the problems.
Make-up exams will only be considered when discussed with us at least two weeks in advance, or in the event of a medical or family emergency (in which case documentation must be provided).

Course Outline   Readings and due dates for homeworks and exams. Check Canvas for updates and additional materials. This schedule does not include weekly language journals (due R by 5p) or quizzes (in-class on F).

		M	W	F
Week 1 8/21–8/25	What is language?		Essentials 1.1–1.3	Leamnson 2011
Week 2 8/28– 9/1	Design Features	Essentials 1.4–1.6	Essentials 3.1, 3.6	Essentials 3.2
Week 3 9/4– 9/8	Phonetics	**LABOR DAY** **NO CLASS**	Essentials 3.3–3.5	
Week 4 9/11–9/15	Phonetics & Phonology	Essentials 3.7, 3.8	Essentials 4.1, 4.2 **HW1 due**	Essentials 3.6
Week 5 9/18–9/22	Phonology	Essentials 4.3, 4.4	Essentials 4.5–4.7	
Week 6 9/25–9/29	Variation: Sound	Essentials 4.9 **HW2 due**	Essentials 3.10–3.12	**EXAM 1 Sound**
Week 7 10/2–10/6	Morphology	Essentials 5.1, 5.2	Essentials 5.6, 5.7	Essentials 5.10
Week 8 10/9–10/13	Morphology	Essentials 5.4, 5.9	Essentials 5.3, 5.11	**FALL BREAK** **NO CLASS**
Week 9 10/16–10/20	Syntax	Essentials 5.5, 6.1, 6.5 **HW3 due**	Essentials 6.3, 6.4	
Week 10 10/23–10/27	Syntax	Essentials 6.2, 6.6 **HW4 due**	Essentials 6.17	
Week 11 10/30–11/3	Variation: Words & Sentences	Language Files 13.4.4	Essentials 2.2 **HW5 due**	**EXAM 2 Words & Sentences**
Week 12 11/6–11/10	Meaning	Essentials 7.1–7.5	Essentials 8.4–8.7	

Week 13 11/13–11/17	Language Variation	Essentials 10.2, 2.1, 2.6	Essentials 2.8, 9.6	Dunstan & Jaeger 2015

THANKSGIVING BREAK   11/20–11/24

Week 14 11/27–12/1	TBD	tbd	tbd **HW6 due**	
Week 15 12/4–12/8	Language Acquisition	Essentials 11.1, 11.4, 11.10	Essentials 11.9 + innateness video	**HW7 due** **extra credit due by 5pm**

FINAL EXAM: Cumulative   Wednesday 12/13   5:20–7:20p   BH 310

Additional Policies and Resources

Accessibility
http://studentaffairs.indiana.edu/disability-services-students/index.shtml
This semester is likely to be chaotic in ways that we can't yet anticipate. Please know that we care about your mental, emotional, and physical health and are open to finding creative solutions to any issues that may come up. We are dedicated to making sure this course and its associated content are accessible to all students. If you encounter any material that is not easily accessible to you (e.g., file sizes too large for internet capacity, text incompatibility with e-readers), or if there are other issues that affect your ability to make progress, please let Dr. Bunger (acbunger@indiana.edu) know as soon as possible so that we can find a solution. In addition, any student who would like to discuss accommodations for a qualified disability is requested to speak directly to the **Office of Disability Services for Students** (Wells Library, Suite W 302; iubdss@indiana.edu; 812-855-7578) and to Dr. Bunger as early as possible in the semester (preferably within the first week of class). These services are confidential, but they may take time to put into place, and they are not retroactive.

Attendance and Participation
Regular engagement is essential to achieving the learning outcomes of this course. You are expected to attend and to arrive on time for all lectures and discussion sections. You are responsible for all notes, announcements and handouts given out in class. If you would like to obtain materials for a class that you missed for reasons other than an emergency or documented illness, first speak to a friend in the class. And please visit our office hours if there is something that requires clarification!

Students missing class for a religious observance can find the officially approved accommodation form by going to the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs webpage for religious accommodations (https://vpfaa.indiana.edu/faculty-resources/teaching-resources/religious-observances-information.html). The form must be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the anticipated absence.

Collaboration

We encourage you to discuss your homework assignments with other students who are currently taking the course. We expect this discussion to involve an exchange of ideas rather than simply an exchange of papers to check or share answers (see the policies related to **Academic Misconduct** in this syllabus). If you do choose to work with other students on assignments, each student must write up the answers independently. This means that the assignments submitted by students who work together cannot be identical (although they may, in some cases, contain very similar answers). If you work with other students, list the names of each of them at the top of the assignment that you submit. Consider meeting with collaborators during our office hours so that there will be an instructor there in case you have questions!

Communication and Student Drop-In Hours

Everyone on the instructional team has weekly **drop-in hours**, which is time that we have set aside to talk to you. Drop in anytime during these scheduled times to ask questions or just to say hi. You should also feel free to contact us to set up something that works better for you. Outside of these times, **personal e-mail** is the best way to reach individual members of the instructional team. (Canvas email is convenient, but not entirely reliable. If you do want to discuss a grade, however, Canvas email is the way to go.) Please be clear in the subject line as to what the message is concerning. We'll do our best to reply to your e-mails within 48 hours. We will also be communicating with you by **Canvas Announcement**. Go to your Canvas Account page to make sure you'll be receiving notifications of Announcements when they are sent.

Emotional Wellbeing and Support

http://healthcenter.indiana.edu/counseling/

If you are struggling with your emotional well-being, please consider contacting IU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS: 812-855-5711). The instructional team for this course is happy to listen to you, but we have no counseling training and the folks at CAPS do. In addition, we may be legally required to report certain things that you share with us (e.g., reports of sexual assault, suicidal thoughts).

Inclusion

Respect for cultural and biological diversity are central to the field of Linguistics. From both a scientific and a human perspective, there is value in considering the different opinions, backgrounds, and experiences that individuals contribute to the classroom. As we share ideas in this course, we may not always agree with each other, but we will work together to maintain an atmosphere of openness and respect for all perspectives. If you witness or experience a bias incident on campus, you may report it online at biasincident.indiana.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office (812-855-8187).

Land Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge and honor the Indigenous communities native to this region, and recognize that Indiana University Bloomington is built on Indigenous homelands and resources. We recognize the myaamiaki, Lënape, Bodwéwadmik, and saawanwa people as past, present, and future caretakers of this land.

Late work and Grading Disputes

You are responsible in this course for keeping up with deadlines. No late quizzes will be accepted, and language journals will not be accepted after midnight on Thursday nights. Late homework assignments will be accepted, but will be penalized 10% for each day they are late. In rare cases, make-up exams may be given with documentation of an extended family or medical emergency. For questions about these policies, or if you believe that a grading error has been made, contact Dr. Bunger (acbunger@indiana.edu). For regrades, you should be prepared with specific details about the nature of the error. Please keep in mind that regrades may result in a lower score rather than a higher one. Finally, please note that we would be happy to talk with you about your grades over Zoom or by Canvas email, but the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) prohibits us from discussing them with you through our regular email accounts.

Misconduct of various sorts
http://www.iu.edu/~code/code/responsibilities/academic/index.shtml
As a student at IU, you are expected to adhere to the standards and policies detailed in the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct, including responsibilities to uphold and maintain academic and professional honesty and integrity. When you submit an assignment with your name on it, you are signifying that the work contained therein is yours, unless otherwise cited or referenced. Any ideas or materials taken from another source for either written or oral use must be fully acknowledged. Using online transcription, translation, paraphrasing, or text generation tools and presenting the output as your own work constitutes misconduct. This includes IPA transcriptions—you may copy in individual symbols from TypeIt, but full transcriptions of words should not be copied from other outside sources (this is the equivalent of using Google Translate in a language course or for relevant assignments in this course). See Part II-G of the Code for detailed descriptions of types of academic misconduct that will not be tolerated, including (but not limited to) cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, and facilitation of academic misconduct. Ignorance of what constitutes misconduct is not a valid excuse. All suspected violations of the Code will be handled according to University policies. Sanctions for academic misconduct may include a failing grade on the assignment, a reduction in your final course grade, or a failing grade in the course, among other possibilities, and must include a report to the Dean of Students, who may impose additional disciplinary sanctions.

In addition, you should be aware that selling the instructor's notes/study guides or uploading course assignments to the web in exchange for access to materials for other courses is not permitted. Violations of this policy will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Student Conduct) as academic misconduct (Violation of Course Rules). Additionally, you should know that selling a faculty member's notes/study guides individually or on behalf of one of these services using IU email, or via Canvas may also constitute a violation of IU information technology and IU intellectual property policies; additional consequences may result.

The instructors teaching this course hold the exclusive right to distribute, modify, post, and reproduce course materials, including all written materials, study guides, lectures, assignments, exercises, and exams. Some of the course content may be downloadable, but you should not distribute, post, or alter the instructor's intellectual property. While you are permitted to take notes on the online materials and lectures posted for this course for your personal use, you are not permitted to re-post in another forum, distribute, or reproduce content from this course without the express written permission of the instructors.

Sexual Misconduct and Title IX
As your instructors, one of our responsibilities is to create a positive learning environment for all students. IU policy prohibits sexual misconduct in any form, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, sexual exploitation, and dating and domestic violence. If you have experienced sexual misconduct, or know someone who has, the University can help. If you are seeking help and would like to speak to someone confidentially, you can make an appointment with the IU Sexual Assault Crisis Services at (812) 855-5711, or contact a Confidential Victim Advocate at (812) 856-2469 or cva@indiana.edu.

It is also important that you know that University policy requires us to share certain information brought to our attention about potential sexual misconduct, with the campus Deputy Sexual Misconduct & Title IX Coordinator or the University Sexual Misconduct & Title IX Coordinator. In that event, those individuals will work to ensure that appropriate measures are taken and resources are made available. Protecting student privacy is of utmost concern, and information will only be shared with those that need to know to ensure the University can respond and assist. We encourage you to visit http://stopsexualviolence.iu.edu/index.html to learn more.

Student Academic Center
https://sac.indiana.edu/
If you are struggling academically, or just want to hear about new learning strategies, perspectives, and behaviors that can facilitate academic success, the Student Academic Center offers a range of free on-line and face-to-face resources to support student academic success.

Student Assistance (Administrative, Financial, Food Insecurity, etc.)
https://studentaffairs.indiana.edu/student-advocates/
The Student Advocates Office (SAO) can help students work through personal and academic problems as well as financial difficulties and concerns. SAO also assists students working through grade appeals and withdrawals from all classes. SAO also has emergency funds for IU students experiencing emergency financial crisis.

https://studentaffairs.indiana.edu/student-support/crimson-cupboard/index.html
If you have limited access to nutritionally adequate or safe foods, you might be interested in visiting Crimson Cupboard, an on-campus food pantry (located in Campus View Apartments, 800 N. Union St.) that offers free healthy food to IU Bloomington students. Students can visit the pantry once a week.

Student Rights
Any student who believes another person in a class is threatening their personal safety or the class may step out of class without consequence.

Technology
It is your responsibility as a member of our classroom community to avoid the use of technological devices that may distract others. You may use a laptop, tablet, or cell phone during class time for purposes that are related to our class (e.g., note-taking, use of online textbooks, group work, looking up answers to questions, checking the time). Unacceptable use of these devices (see the Canvas Page "technology policy notes" for examples) is prohibited. No photos, videos, or audio recordings may be made in the classroom without prior permission from Dr. Bunger. First violations of this policy will result in a warning and/or public call-out. Additional violations will result in the loss of 1% from your final course grade. Students who repeatedly violate this policy will incur further restrictions on their use of devices. Turnabout is fair play: If you catch any of the instructors misusing their own devices, you may earn extra credit.

Linguistics in the Wild! Extra Credit

Find examples of concepts or phenomena we discuss in class out the in the world (from real life, pop culture, social media, etc.), and email them to Dr. Bunger (acbunger@indiana.edu) along with a brief description (2–4 sentences) of how they relate to class. Your description should both identify the concept or phenomenon that your example illustrates and provide some commentary on it.

> For example:
> When my cousin's hair was sticking up at Thanksgiving, my aunt told him his hair "needs combed."
> This is an example of syntactic variation in dialects of English. This phrase might not be considered "standard" (prescriptive) English, but it is common (and descriptively grammatical) in Indiana dialects.

When you submit, we will either grant you credit or provide you feedback to revise your submission. You will earn a half point (0.5) of extra credit for each example that provides an appropriate illustration of class topics. You may earn up to a total of 2 extra credit points; these points will be added to your final course grade.

Make your contributions unique: no credit will be given for observations that have already been submitted. You will also not receive any credit for examples that have already been discussed in class (e.g., some people say "soda" and some people say "pop."). Examples may be shared in class (anonymously), so if you would prefer that your example be kept confidential, please mention that when you submit it.

Extra Credit may be submitted any time before (or at) 5pm on the last day of classes.

Extra credit must be submitted by email to acbunger@indiana.edu
You do not need to attach a file—feel free to enter your observations directly in the email. Please keep in mind that I am a human, and address your email accordingly.