

## **Linguistics 597: Linguistics and language science (Fall 2022)**

Days: Tuesday, Thursday  
Time: 12:05 p.m.-1:20 p.m.  
Room: 269 Willard  
Instructor: John Lipski  
Office: 247 Burrowes  
Lab: 1C Keller  
Mailbox: 442 Burrowes  
Telephone: (814) 865-6583 (with voice mail; speak clearly)  
Virtual office hours: Tuesday, Thursday 1:30-2:30; Friday 8:00-9:00;  
Zoom links on CANVAS; and by appointment (don't be shy; I'm available at other times)  
E-mail: [jlipski@psu.edu](mailto:jlipski@psu.edu)  
Web site: [www.personal.psu.edu/jml34/](http://www.personal.psu.edu/jml34/)

### **OBJECTIVES:**

The goal of this course is to familiarize students interested in linguistic diversity and human-computer interaction with fundamental theories and approaches in linguistics and language science. Primarily designed for students in the NSF NRT LINDIV program, this course presents key topics in linguistics, with emphasis on research techniques and interfaces with other scientific disciplines (e.g. engineering, information technology, health sciences). The primary focus is on linguistic diversity across the life span, including within-language regional and social variation, bilingualism, and language disorders. The presentations target practical applications such as automatic speech recognition, speech synthesis, voice identification, corpus analysis, and machine translation.

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

This is a pioneering course to launch the NSF NRT LINDIV program. In the spirit of multi-disciplinary contacts, there will be two main components to the course: EXPLORING and SHARING.

#### **EXPLORING:**

- During the semester, there will be five mini-projects designed to explore language variation and the interfaces between linguistics and technology.
- At the end of the semester, each student will submit a final report (details to be given as the course evolves), summarizing what has been learned about the interfaces between language science and technology, and suggesting future avenues of exploration.

#### **SHARING:**

- Taking advantage of the wide range of backgrounds, every two weeks each student will submit a reading relating the student's discipline and language science broadly construed. Send to [jlipski@psu.edu](mailto:jlipski@psu.edu)
- Mid-way through the semester, each student will give a brief presentation of a chosen article.

- At the end of the semester, each student will give a brief overview of the final paper.

All relevant course materials are posted in CANVAS, under the “Files” menu option.

## **CONTACTING ME**

The very best way is by sending a message to **jlipski@psu.edu**. During university working days I check my e-mail many times a day (that’s days, not nights) and will respond as soon as I open your message. On weekends, holidays and extended breaks I normally check e-mail no more than once or twice a day, so please be patient. I promise a timely, if not always instantaneous reply. If you send a message through CANVAS I will also receive it, but not always as quickly. Also feel free to contact me verbally before, during, or after class or during my open office hours. My office phone (814-865-6583) has voice mail that the university sends to my email, but the recordings are not always clear enough to understand, and the accompanying voice-recognition transcripts are often unusable. If you do leave a voice mail, please also leave your e-mail and your name; I will respond electronically since if I am not on campus, I do not have access to a university phone to return the call.

## **WHY ARE OFFICE HOURS BEING HELD REMOTELY?**

- The ongoing pandemic has now claimed the lives of more than 1 million people in the United States alone;
- Thanks to the large number of unvaccinated people, herd immunity has not been achieved, and new variants are emerging and spreading rapidly.
- Even fully vaccinated people can spread COVID-19, and also contract it (think of some recent cases involving very famous people).
- Penn State has refused to mandate vaccination, distancing, testing, or masks, and has forbidden faculty and staff to require them.
- Therefore, for your safety as well as mine, we will limit face-to-face interactions to those demanded by the university administration: the hours in the classroom. But remember: it is easy to set up individual virtual meetings with me, so don’t hold back.

- ☞ **This is a paper-free course.** All assignments are to be turned in **electronically** . Send all other communication ONLY to [jlipski@psu.edu](mailto:jlipski@psu.edu) International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) phonetic symbols should be in the **DoulosSIL** font, available from [www.sil.org](http://www.sil.org) If you use phonetic symbols, be sure to check the “embed truetype fonts” box on the Tools-Options menu in Word® before saving the file, to ensure that the fonts will be preserved when I open your file.
- ☞ All electronic communication should be through e-mail: [jlipski@psu.edu](mailto:jlipski@psu.edu).

#### **GRADE BREAKDOWN:**

- 10% Attendance and overall participation
- 60% mini-projects (5)
- 5% article presentation
- 5% final presentation
- 20% final report

#### **Grading scale:**

95.0-100%	A
90.0–94.9%	A-
87.7 – 89.9%	B+
83.4 – 87.6%	B
80.0 – 83.3%	B-
75.0 – 79.9%	C+
70.0 – 74.9%	C
60.0 – 69.9%	D
59.9% and below	F

#### **TENTATIVE CALENDAR (subject to updating)**

Week #1 (beginning August 23): INTRODUCTION; LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGE SCIENCE. *Read:* In “Intro” folder: Briscoe, Gawne, Good. In “Variation” folder: Chambers, pp. 3-14.

Week #2 (beginning August 30): LANGUAGE VARIATION AND VARIABILITY: AN OVERVIEW. LINGUISTS’ ANALYSES VS. POPULAR PERCEPTIONS. *Read:* In “Variation” folder: Evans, Labov, Maddieson, Montgomery, the Preston articles, Yannuar; in “ASR” folder: Elfeky;  
[Submit article this week.](#)

Week #3 (beginning September 8): BUILDING BLOCKS: PHONETICS. *Read:* in “Phonetics” folder: Ashby (chap. 1); Ladefoged, Peterson & Barney. **Perceptual dialectology mini-project due September 10.**

Download the acoustic analysis program PRAAT at <https://www.fon.hum.uva.nl/praat/> (Windows and Mac versions available). Tutorial materials are in a CANVAS folder and you will learn how to use this program in class. This program can be installed on the desktop of any computer without the need for administrative access.

Week #4 (beginning September 13): PHONETIC ANALYSIS, SPEECH SYNTHESIS, LABORATORY PHONOLOGY. *Read:* in “phonology” folder: Cohn, Foulkes, Klatt. **Submit article this week.**

Week #5 (beginning September 20): SOCIOPHONETICS; ASR IMPLICATUONS. **Vowel space mini-project due September 22.** *Read:* in “sociophonetics” folder: Baranowski, Farrington, Hay

Week #6 (beginning September 27): BUILDING BLOCKS: SYNTAX. *Read:* in “syntax” folder: Freidin (4 chaps.); Miller (chaps. 1-2); Kim & Sells (chaps. 1-2). **Submit article this week.**

Week #7 (beginning October 4): SYNTACTIC ANALYSIS, CONT. *Read:* in “syntax” folder: Dillon, Goodall, Häussler, Hudson, Snyder **ASR phonetics mini-project due October 6.**

Week #8 (beginning October 11): SHARING OF STUDENT-SUPPLIED READINGS.

Week #9 (beginning October 18): BUILDING BLOCKS: SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS. *Read:* in “pragmatics” folder Bender, Novek (chaps. 1-4); in “semantics” folder: Amaral, Boleda, Garg. **Submit article this week.**

Week #10 (beginning October 25): BUILDING BLOCKS: LEXICON. *Read:* in “lexicon” folder: Levelt, Mansfield, McDonald, Tallman. **Spam filter mini-project due October 27.**

Week #11 (beginning November 1): BILINGUALISM: FROM THE LEXICON ON UP. *Read:* in “bilingualism” folder: Filippi, Gonen, Kroll, Solorio-Yang, Xu. **Submit article this week.**

Week #12 (beginning November 8): BILINGUAL BEHAVIOR AND LANGUAGE RECOGNITION. *Read:* in “language ID” folder: Ambikairajah, Cavnar & Trenkle, Deshwal, Jauhiainen, Zissman

Week #13 (beginning November 15): DEALING WITH LANGUAGE ENGINEERING. *Read:* in “ASR” folder: Dev; in “language engineering” folder: Arnold, Koenecke, Leivada, Nee, Zimman **Pragmatic manipulation mini-project due November 17. Submit article this week.**

Week #14 (beginning November 29): FINAL ISSUES.

Week #15 (beginning December 6): PRESENTATION OF FINAL REPORTS

**FINAL REPORT DUE MONDAY DECEMBER 12**

## RELEVANT UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND INFORMATION

### COVID-19 RELATED POLICIES:

Be sure to follow all university rules and policies for campus conduct during the COVID-19 pandemic. You can find the latest guidelines and policies at:

<https://virusinfo.psu.edu/>

and

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/support-safety-conduct/student-conduct/conduct-information-faculty-staff>

### Faculty Senate Policy 42-27- Class Attendance

<https://undergrad.psu.edu/aappm/E-11-class-attendance.html>

**If you become ill with COVID during the semester, or have to quarantine due to exposure, contact me immediately and we will make the appropriate arrangements.**

The faculty, staff and other resources of the University are furnished for the education of students who attend the University. A class schedule is provided for students and faculty so that a reasonably orderly arrangement for instruction is facilitated. The fact that classes are scheduled is evidence that the faculty believes class instruction is important. Therefore, class attendance is important for the benefit of students. A student should attend every class for which the student is scheduled and should be held responsible for all work covered in the courses taken. In each case, the instructor should decide when the class absence constitutes a danger to the student's scholastic attainment and should make this fact known to the student at once. A student whose irregular attendance causes him or her, in the judgment of the instructor, to become deficient scholastically, may run the risk of receiving a failing grade or receiving a lower grade that the student might have secured had the student been in regular attendance.

Instructors shall provide, within reason, opportunity to make up work for students who miss class for regularly scheduled, **University-approved** curricular and extracurricular activities. However, if such trips are considered by the instructor to be hurting the student's scholastic performance, the instructor should present such evidence for necessary action to the head of the department in which the course is offered and to the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled or to the Division of Undergraduate Studies if the student is enrolled in that division.

Instructors should provide, within reason, opportunity to make up work for students who miss classes for other legitimate but unavoidable reasons.

legitimate, unavoidable reasons are those such as illness, injury, family emergency. If an evaluative event will be missed due to an unavoidable absence, the student should contact the

instructor as soon as the unavoidable absence is known to discuss ways to make up the work. An instructor might not consider an unavoidable absence legitimate if the student does not contact the instructor before the evaluative event. **Students will be held responsible for using only legitimate, unavoidable reasons for requesting a make-up in the event of a missed class or evaluative event.** Requests for missing class or an evaluative event due to reasons that are based on false claims may be considered violations of the policy on Academic Integrity (Policy 49-20).

**Extended Absences:** During your enrollment at Penn State, unforeseen challenges may arise. If you ever need to miss an extended amount of class in such a circumstance, please notify your professor so you can determine the best course of action to make up missed work. If your situation rises to a level of difficulty you cannot manage on your own with faculty support, reach out to the Student Care & Advocacy office by phone at (814-863-2020) or email them at [StudentCare@psu.edu](mailto:StudentCare@psu.edu). Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

The Pennsylvania State University defines academic integrity as the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. All students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their efforts (Faculty Senate Policy 49-20). Dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this course. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of their students. Students who are found to be dishonest will receive academic sanctions and will be reported to the University's Judicial Affairs office for possible further disciplinary sanction. See <http://www.psu.edu/dept/oue/aappm/G-9.html>

## **DISABILITY ACCESS STATEMENT**

The Pennsylvania State University encourages qualified people with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities and is committed to the policy that all people shall have equal access to programs, facilities and admissions without regard to personal characteristics not related to ability, performance, or qualifications as determined by University policy or by state or federal authorities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please tell the instructor as soon as possible.

## **Counseling and psychological services**

Many students at Penn State face personal challenges or have psychological needs that may interfere with their academic progress, social development, or emotional wellbeing. The university offers a variety of confidential services to help you through difficult times, including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, consultations, online chats, and mental health screenings. These services are provided by staff who welcome all students and embrace a

philosophy respectful of clients' cultural and religious backgrounds, and sensitive to differences in race, ability, gender identity and sexual orientation.

[Counseling and Psychological Services at University Park \(CAPS\)](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/counseling/)

(<http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/counseling/>): 814-863-0395

Penn State Crisis Line (24 hours/7 days/week): 877-229-6400

Crisis Text Line (24 hours/7 days/week): Text LIONS to 741741

**Educational equity/bias**

Acts of intolerance, discrimination, or harassment due to age, ancestry, color, disability, gender, gender identity, national origin, race, religious belief, sexual orientation, or veteran status are not tolerated and can be reported through Educational Equity via the [Report Bias webpage](http://equity.psu.edu/reportbias/) (<http://equity.psu.edu/reportbias/>).