Linguis 350: Introduction to Linguistics
Spring 2017, M/W 12:30pm-1:45pm, BOL 294
Jan 23-May 11

Instructor: Hamid Ouali
Department of Linguistics
Email: ouali@uwm.edu
Office Hours: Wed 11:00am-12:00pm, or by appointment
Office: Johnston Hall 129

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the scientific study of human language. Language is Humans’ most fundamental capacity and the field of Linguistics explores the nature of this capacity seeking to describe the structure of human languages (Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, and Semantics), how people learn and use language (Language Acquisition and Sociolinguistics), and how languages develop and change (Historical Linguistics). The general goal is to help students develop analytical skills to solve various linguistic problems.

Required Textbook:

GER Statement: This course meets the UWM General Education Requirement in the division of the Social Sciences.

Learning Outcomes: students will be able to 1) “recognize and analyze intrapersonal, interpersonal, and/or sociocultural factors associated with individual behavior, collective action, or societal development”; 2) “identify and critically evaluate the function, structure and development of human collectivities, organizations, institutions, and cultures, their infrastructures and interrelationships”; 3) “recognize and contextualize human capacities for and/or techniques of creating behavior acquisition and change as viewed from both intra- and inter-cultural perspectives”; 4) “demonstrate the ability to identify, apply and effective communicate methodologies designed for conducting inquiry into human behavior, collective action, societies, or cultures;” and, 5) “critically evaluate and apply alternative theoretical frameworks that have been used to offer meaningful explanations of social phenomena”.

GER Assessment: Students achieve these learning outcomes by attending and engaging in the lectures and doing the reading assignments. To assess the accomplishment of the outcomes, students will display their effective communication skills and their individual, social and environmental responsibility by participating in class discussion. Additionally, through two exams and quizzes, students will demonstrate critical and creative thinking skills by problem-solving using higher-order qualitative reasoning.
"Linguistics subscribes to UWM policies on Students with disabilities (ADA), accommodations for Religious Observances, Academic misconduct, Complaint Procedures, Grade Appeals, Sexual Harassment, Attendance and Safety."

Information on the department and its programs can be found at the department's website, http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/linguistics/

Policies:

It is expected that students will come to class having prepared whatever readings and/or assignments have been scheduled for that day. All readings are required. Assigned work must be turned in at class time on the date that it is due, and cannot be accepted late (but see below).

Illness: If you must be absent from class for a legitimate reason (e.g. illness as documented by a note from a physician or other health care professional) on the day of an exam or when an assignment is due, you must notify me by email to let me know of your anticipated absence. This prior notification will form the basis for your being able to make up the exam or to turn in an assignment late.

Students who will be missing classes due to religious observances, or those who have special needs that will affect their class work or ability to take examinations, should see me early in the semester so that we can make arrangements.

If you will need accommodations in order to meet any of the requirements of this course, please contact me as soon as possible.

The final grade is based on HW assignments, midterm exam, and final exam.

HWs are due on the dates noted on the schedule. **HW assignments must be typed.**