This course provides a broad overview of linguistics, which is the scientific analysis of human language. Modern English will be used as the principal model to demonstrate linguistic theory and techniques.

A primary aim is to show how language is structured as a system. With this goal in mind, we will study sound systems (phonetics and phonology), word formation (morphology), meaning (semantics), phrases and clauses (syntax), and larger units of discourse (pragmatics).

We will also examine other aspects of English; such as, its history, variation within the language, language acquisition, and the increasing use of English globally. Although English will be the focus, examples from other languages will sometimes be considered for comparison or illustration.

Altogether, this will help students gain a solid understanding of English--as one language among many in the world.

A comprehensive textbook will be selected before the start of the semester, and a reasonable effort will be made to keep the price range under $100. Assignments and materials will also be distributed on D2L or in class.