# Fall 2008 LING 353: Historical Linguistics

**Instructor:** Amanda Pounder **Time:** TR 9:30-11:00

**Location:** SB 144

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### **Course Materials:**

**Text:** Campbell, Lyle. 2004 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). *Historical Linguistics. An Introduction*. Cambridge: MIT Press

**Course Description:** This course provides an introduction to the principles and techniques of the field of historical linguistics. Students will gain an understanding of processes of change within phonology, morphology, syntax, and lexicon, and more generally, an understanding of how linguists describe and attempt to explain language change. Techniques of reconstruction, data analysis, and data gathering will be practised.

**Prerequisites:** The prerequisites for this course are Linguistics 201 and 203 or equivalent. A student may not register in any linguistics course unless a grade of at least C- has been attained in all prerequisites for that course.

## **Course Requirements:**

Assignments (3 @ 10%)	30%
Midterm Test	30%
Final Examination	40%

The final examination will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office during the Examinations Period.

#### **Deadlines and Absences:**

**Tests:** There is no possibility of a make-up midterm test. At the instructor's discretion, students who miss the test may have the weighting normally assigned to the midterm transferred to the final examination if they produce a valid excuse supported by appropriate documentation. Valid excuses are illness, childbirth, and domestic affliction. Unexcused absence will result in a mark of zero.

**Assignments:** All assignments are to be handed in on the designated due date (by 4 pm unless otherwise stated). Late assignments will not be accepted without valid excuse as above. Late

assignments will not be accepted after the class handback; alternate arrangements will be made at the instructor's discretion.

## **Grading Scheme:**

A+	95-100	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	55-59
A	90-94	В	73-76	C	63-66	D	50-54
A-	80-89	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	F	< 50

## **Academic Misconduct and Plagiarism**

Students should be familiar with University policy on academic misconduct (see *Calendar*, p.53-55), as well as departmental policy, reproduced here. Any misconduct (cheating, plagiarism etc.) will be dealt with immediately in accordance with these policies.

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- c) the whole work (e.g. an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) the student submits or presents work in one course which was also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data, and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Some course assignments call for students to work in groups. Unless otherwise noted in writing, students must write up their own answers for submission of the assignment. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Possible penalties for plagiarism include: failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion.

Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of plagiarism is also guilty of academic misconduct.

### **LING 353: Tentative Course Schedule**

Week I Ch. 1. Introduction

Ch. 2. Sound Change

Week II-IV Ch. 2 cont.

Ch. 5 Comparative Method and Linguistic Reconstruction

ASSIGNMENT 1 October 9th

Week V Ch. 8 Internal Reconstruction

Week VI Ch. 9 Semantic Change and Lexical Change

Week VII Ch. 4 Analogical Change

MIDTERM October 28th

Week VIII Ch. 10 Syntactic Change

ASSIGNMENT 2 November 4th

Week IX Ch.3 Borrowing

Ch. 6 Linguistic Classification

Week X Ch. 7 Models of Linguistic Change Week XI Ch. 11 Explaining Linguistic Change

ASSIGNMENT 3 November 20th

Week XII Ch. 12 Areal Linguistics

Ch. 13 Distant Genetic Relationship

Week XIII Ch. 14 Philology

Ch. 15 Linguistic Prehistory