



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

LING 451
History of Linguistic Thought
Fall 2021
MWF 14:00-14:50 – In person ES 054

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dr. Dennis Storoshenko

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays and Thursdays 11:30 – 12:30 in person (email for alternate times or zoom)

E-MAIL: dstorosh@ucalgary.ca (Responses within 24 hours if received on a weekday, messages received over the weekend may wait until the next business day)

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 403-220-6119 (Only checked weekly during remote working terms, best to email)

DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will be undertaking the ambitious goal of trying to cover the entire range of Linguistics from the earliest stone tablets to acrimonious back-and-forth arguments about Chomsky. Through this, we will consistently revisit a few key questions: What are linguists trying to do? Where does language come from? Does the language of the linguist determine the linguistics? To what extent is linguistics at the mercy of whatever else is going on in the world?

OBJECTIVES

Students should be able to think more critically about contemporary theories, understanding how and why they are shaped the way they are. Students will also gain exposure to primary literature from the 19th and 20th centuries generally not covered in the core curriculum.

OUTCOMES

Students will have a better grasp of the history of the field, and the reason theories have evolved as they have. Students will have a greater familiarity with the development of the field, including exposure to non-Western works.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Harris, Roy and Talbot J. Taylor. 1997. *Landmarks in Linguistic Thought I: The Western Tradition from Socrates to Saussure, 2nd Edition*. New York: Routledge. (Not ordered to bookstore, downloadable from the university library)

Plus a number of readings posted on D2L

RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

N/A

COURSE NOTES

All course activities are planned to be synchronous. Questions and discussions in class are strongly encouraged...these will not be structured lectures, each class will proceed with a handout of bulleted discussion points that can also act as a study guide. In the event we need to shift to zoom, comments in the chat are fine, but also feel free to turn on a microphone to raise a point for discussion. Whatever the



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medium, students are expected to be respectful of each others' time and viewpoints. Recording of classes is not permitted, unless by specific accommodation with documentation from Student Accessibility Services.

Attendance is not strictly mandatory, but with a portion of the course grade coming from participation, this is the easiest way to earn those points. Discussion board topics for each week's set of readings will also be created as an alternative method of participating.

All written work is to be submitted by D2L in .pdf format (easiest for providing feedback). Dropboxes will be created. All written work must be submitted in full sentences (i.e. no bullet points), and should follow a coherent line of thought. Assessment of technical details in writing (spelling, grammatical sentences, clarity, etc...) will only be part of the grading of the Final Paper, though feedback on these issues may be given on other submitted work. For both the Paper Proposal and Final Paper, proper citation of primary sources will be required. The Unified Style Sheet for Linguistics (to be provided in class) will be suggested, but not required. Assessment on this is ultimately just that a style is chosen and used consistently.

All written assignments are due at 23:59 on the given due date. Late penalties of 2% per day for written work may be levied if there is no prior consultation (see below). Alternate dates for the Midterms will not be provided; if you need to miss one, the full weight of the Midterm portion of the course will be transferred to the other. For written work and for the Midterm Exams, extensions (written work) or re-weighting (Midterms), may be granted if appropriate documentation (e.g. Statutory Declaration available through the registrar) is provided. In general, it is best to anticipate these needs and either send an email or visit office hours before the due date/exam date.

The D2L gradebook is maintained as a check to make sure all submitted material has been recorded. Especially as the Reading Responses are not required every week, and will be programmed as a fraction of one course component, the D2L projected final grade may not be accurate. Only after the end of classes will the D2L gradebook be fully reconciled; students concerned about their course progress are encouraged to contact the instructor directly. Students should also note that gradebook data is available to the thrive system, which monitors academic performance.

A full schedule of readings, along with important dates, will be provided in the syllabus containing the full reference list for the course. The syllabus will also outline potential changes to assessments in case of a switch to online classes, subject to change as university policies are updated.

Course evaluation will be online via D2L.

ASSESSMENT

Reading Responses 20% (8 Submissions 2.5% each)

Participation 10%

Paper Proposal 5%

Final Paper 25%

Reflection Exercise 10%

Midterms 30% (2x15%)

Reading responses are based on sets of questions posted each week, relating to that week's readings. A set of questions is posted on Monday for the following week's readings, and students have one week to submit a 200-400 word response, due the following Monday. There will be twelve opportunities to submit, only eight need to be submitted, students may choose which weeks to skip. Submission by D2L.

Participation can either be via in-class discussion, or use of D2L discussion boards. Grading is based on engagement with material and with classmates.

Paper Proposal is a short (maximum one page) description of the topic each student has chosen for a final paper. At least three original sources must be provided. This is not a commitment, just a checkpoint in the



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process of developing a paper so that everything is not last minute. Due Nov 15th by D2L.

Final Paper is a research paper with very loose parameters, more details to be provided in the full syllabus. 10-15 pages, 1.5-2.0 spacing of a 12pt font. Due Dec 10th by D2L.

Reflection Exercise is a two-part assignment with two submissions, each worth 5% of the total grade. The first submission is due very early, on Friday September 10th. The purpose of this exercise is to answer a set of questions **before** engaging with the course material in any depth. The questions will be available no later than the start of Block Week. The second submission is due Wednesday December 8th, the last day of classes. The same questions are posed again, and students are asked to reflect on what they have learned through the course.

Midterm Exams occur twice synchronously in class on Oct 13th and Nov 24th, each worth 15% of the course. These exams test the basic comprehension of the course readings (putting names to ideas, understanding of key concepts, etc...)

GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100-97 A = 93-96 A- = 92-88 B+ = 87-83 B = 82-78 B- = 77-73 C+ = 72-68 C = 67-63
C- = 62-58 D+ = 57-53 D = 52-50 F = 49%

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>, and <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT



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Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.