



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

LING 455  
Linguistic Typology  
COURSE OUTLINE

Fall 2022  
TR 12:30-1:45  
CHC 309

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Elizabeth Ritter

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesdays 2:30-3:30, or by appointment in CHC 218  
or by request for other times and for Zoom meetings

**E-MAIL:** [ritter@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ritter@ucalgary.ca)

**NOTE:** I will respond to e-mails by the end of the next business day.

**DESCRIPTION:** This course is an introduction to linguistic typology, the comparative study of the grammatical properties of the languages of the world within the domains of syntax and morphology. Typologists try to discover the ways in which languages differ from each other, what the range of variation is, which grammatical properties are common, and which are rare, and what properties (if any) are shared by all languages. It presents an overview of some of the main results of typological research and compares typological and generative approaches to cross-linguistic variation and universals.

**OBJECTIVES:** The goals of LING 455 are to introduce grammatical phenomena that differ from those of English, and to familiarize students with analytical techniques and results of typological and generative approaches to cross-linguistic variation and universals.

**OUTCOMES:** Students will gain experience in conducting morphological and syntactic analyses of different types of languages. They will learn how to apply concepts and tools introduced in class and in course readings, and how to use primary sources, notably descriptive grammars, to develop an in-depth typological profile of a specific language.

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

Whaley, Lindsay J. 1997. *Introduction to Typology: The Unity and Diversity of Language*. Thousand Oaks, California: Sage Publications Inc.

Data sets and supplementary readings will be made available through D2L.

**RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS** - none

**COURSE NOTES**

- This course will be delivered in person only.
- ALL homework assignments must be submitted **in hard copy** at the beginning of class on the day they are due.
- Modified versions of lecture slides will be posted on D2L.
- See Assessment section below for tentative due dates for all course requirements
- During class, electronic devices may ONLY be used to access course materials.
- Video recording of LING 455 lectures is not permitted.



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- Each student will be assigned a different language to analyze for purposes of homework assignments, the oral presentation and typological profile.

#### ASSESSMENT

Homework Assignment #1	5%	Thursday, Sept. 22
Homework Assignment #2	10%	Tuesday, Oct. 18
Late term test (in class, on paper)	35%	Thursday, Nov. 3
Homework Assignment #3	10%	Tuesday, Nov. 22
Student presentations	10%	Thursday, Dec. 1 & Tuesday, December 6
Typological Profile	30%	Friday Dec. 16

#### GRADING SCALE

A+	97-100%	B+	82-86%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	92-96%	B	77-81%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	87-91%	B-	72-76%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of all graded work is between two letter grades. To determine final letter grades for this course, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90%, but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89%).

#### 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 behaviour 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://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>

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/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) 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.



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#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

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/legal-services/access-information-privacy> 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/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

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](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/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 Tower.

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

#### **INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops and tablets 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>.