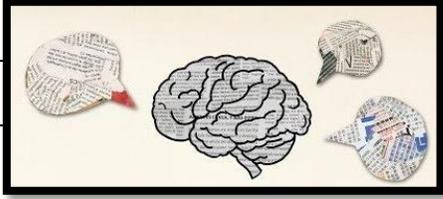
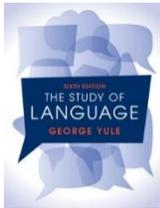


LING 2301: Introduction to the Study of Human Languages
Fall 2020

	Instructor: Dr. Daniel Scarpace [ˈdænjɔʊ skɑː pˈɑːtʃeɪ]	TA: William Kirton
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Office Hours:	W 1-2, Th 11:30-12:30 or by appointment	
Faculty Profile:	https://www.uta.edu/profiles/daniel%20-scarpace	



Time and Place of Class Meetings: Tuesday/Thursday 12:30 PM – 1:50 PM; Online

Required Textbook: Yule, George. 2020. *The Study of Language*. Seventh Edition
Additional Readings provided on Canvas

Description of Course Content: LING 2301 provides an overview of an inarguably fundamental human capacity: language. Students will consider a variety of language-related topics in the context of the physical sciences, cognitive sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Course readings provide students with exposure to many of the basic concepts and terms used in the study of language and linguistics. Lectures and in-class activities complement the readings by further elucidating key concepts and exemplifying these notions. This course satisfies the University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Course Objectives: The goal of LING 2301 is to change students' relationship with language by challenging and enriching thinking about language and raising consciousness of the role that language plays in the minds and communities of humans. As the semester progresses, students should be increasingly prepared to enter into well-informed discussions about the three primary themes of the course:

1. Structure of Language: All languages are systematic, manifesting the complementary properties of rule-governance and creativity;
2. Language Acquisition: Language acquisition and use are rooted in both cognitive (internal) and social (external) factors; and
3. Language Change: Languages reflect both our collective humanity and our socio-historical diversity; as such, all languages are worthy of study and respect.

These course themes are supported by reference to specific topics as covered in the readings, lectures, and class discussions.

What this class is all about: Linguistics is not a subject generally taught in high schools, and generally many people think that a linguist is one who speaks many languages or is involved in translation. Instead, this course explores the array of disciplines that a linguist is involved in, studying human language from a scientific point of view; that is, from an evidence- and experiment-driven approach. We approach a number of different topics in linguistics, leading students to think about language as a linguist would by developing analytical reasoning. Along the way, we will debunk many popular conceptions and ideas about language.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- identify and explain many of the basic questions investigated by linguists, in order to situate the discipline of linguistics in the broader intellectual landscape [Critical Thinking Skills objective]
- describe and illustrate the features shared by all languages, in order to distinguish those aspects of human language attributable to genetics/biology from those that are socially conditioned landscape [Critical Thinking Skills objective]
- analyze communicative signs (icons, words, sentences), in order to differentiate form, meaning, and function within a sign and to justify the use of a particular form in a specific context [Communication Skills objective]
- compare the characteristics of normative and non-normative/developing language behaviors in order to recommend appropriate measures when interacting with language limited individuals (especially children and aphasic adults) [Empirical and Quantitative Skills objective]
- analyze the structure of interpersonal interactions, in order to assess the ways in which language both reflects and creates social relationships [Social Responsibility objective]
- identify major historical events that have shaped modern (American) English, in order to explain contemporary patterns of language use and sociolinguistic attitudes [Empirical and Quantitative Skills objective] and
- debate the relative merits of monolingualism vs. multilingualism, in order to make more informed decisions about relevant social, educational, and legal policies. [Social responsibility objective]

These student learning outcomes align with the following four Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board objectives:

Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.

Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.

Empirical and Quantitative Skills: To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.

Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

Explanation of how the day-to-day class works

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this course will be meeting exclusively online, both **asynchronously** and **synchronously**. The class is scheduled for two days a week. Generally, for the first day of each week, you may be asked to watch videos / answer discussion questions on your own or on Canvas / take a quiz / other activities. For the second day of each week, the class will meet together at the scheduled class meeting time using **Microsoft Teams**. These synchronous meetings may consist of discussion, review of materials from the previous day in the week, or group activities. **For the first unit of the class, all of the meetings will be synchronous.** Please refer to the calendar for the exact breakdown.

Grading Breakdown	Points (500 total)	% of total score
Attendance/Participation	50	10%
Second Language Interview Essay	100	20%
Homework	60 (10 pts x 6)	12%
Quizzes	40 (5 pts x 8)	8%
Midterms x 2	150 (75 x2 each)	30%
Final	100	20%

Description of Assignments

Attendance and Participation (50 pts total). Attendance is mandatory due to the interactive nature of the course. This will be taken during the synchronous meetings (noted in the calendar). If you can't make it for any reason, let the instructor know before class. (There is significant wiggle room in this requirement, but we think that your attendance is crucial for the class to run well).

Quizzes (40 pts total). Reading quizzes will be taken online at the beginning of the week, before the first day of class. These days are noted in the calendar.

Homework (60 pts total). The homework assignments make up a significant number of points in this course. They are usually due at the end of the week (Sundays @ 11:59 PM) and cover material from the previous week. You are allowed to discuss the homework with other students in the class, but you must submit your own responses. Any writing that is clearly copied from another student's work or from any source other than the textbook without citation is considered plagiarism. All homework assignments will be submitted via Canvas. Many assignments can be typed directly into Canvas; for others, you must submit your responses as a PDF in order to preserve images, fonts, etc. *No other file types will be graded.*

Midterm and Final Exams (75 pts for each midterm, 100 pts for the Final). There will be two midterm exams and one final exam. The final exam is cumulative. For the two midterm exams, note that the exam will not be held at the normal class time, but rather in the evening. Students may petition for a makeup exam time if they are unavailable for the exam. The format of the exams will include multiple choice and short answers.

SLA Interview Essay (100 points): Students will be required to conduct two short interviews with second language speakers of English and analyze it according to what they have learned so far in class about language and language acquisition. There will be two smaller parts of the grade due earlier in the semester – a prospectus and an outline. Details will be provided later in the semester. You will submit an electronic copy in PDF format via Canvas.

Extra Credit. A small number of extra credit questions will show up on exams and homeworks. There will be no other planned opportunities for extra credit in the course.

Tips for doing well in LING 2301

Always come to class

- Linguistics is a discipline that you are likely unfamiliar with. It is filled with new terms and concepts, and it is something that you really need to *do* to get it, not just read about.
- Plus, there's nothing like missing a class to make a person feel lost, confused, or out of it
- The whole class builds right from the start
- Not only do you miss the material from the day you were gone, but you get less out of the next class too because there are references to things you don't remember, and you're shy about asking questions because you think your question may have been covered while you were absent.
- Then you start to tune out, and it goes downhill from there.
- Best practices: after class, review your notes or activities to make sure you know what went on!

Use class time wisely: spend time learning to think analytically

- Most days in class you will be spending time going through analytical problems with your group
- You should be well prepared to tackle these problems by doing the readings for class.
- Bring your book to refer to: you will find it helpful, especially if you don't remember everything!
- Many times the 'answers' to the problems are not that important: the process involved getting to the answers is.
- In other words, you may not be tested on the exact material from the handouts, but you will be given similar problems to do on your own in the exam. Focus on the underlying concepts rather than rushing to get the answer.
- Avoid being distracted by other homework, classes, social media, chit chat, etc.

Turn in your assignments

- The biggest reason that students do not make their desired grade in this class is by not turning in assignments.
- Even if you don't finish it entirely, it is not worth getting a zero on any assignment.

Things you should expect

- Homework assignments are not long
- Readings are not long
- You should spend roughly 6 hours per week outside of class time on readings, homeworks, and review.
- Concepts are new and challenge the way you thought about language in general
- The course moves at a fairly quick pace

Things you shouldn't expect

- concepts seem mysterious
- what's expected of you is unclear
- it's unclear how to proceed, or how to tackle a problem

When these happen, tell me so I can try to fix it—you'll be doing your classmates a favor

Exams. If you miss an exam, you will be allowed to take a make-up only if you can provide written documentation of an extreme and reasonably unforeseeable circumstance (e.g. sudden serious illness, major family crisis, etc.). Something like, "I'm going to be out of town on a cruise" is NOT an acceptable excuse for missing any exam (or any other assignment, really). Should you find yourself needing a make-up exam, you must contact the instructor by e-mail **BEFORE** the exam date to request a make-up. Students who miss an exam but do not notify the instructor as specified herein will receive a grade of zero (0%).

Extra Credit and Make-up work. There will be various extra credit opportunities throughout the semester. Make-up work is at the discretion of the instructor (generally, no make-up work or late assignments allowed except for special circumstances).

Projected Schedule (subject to change):

(1) = Tuesday, (2) = Thursday,  = asynchronous,  = synchronous

	<i>Class Topic</i>	<i>Readings and Assignments</i>
Week 1 (8/26 – 8/30)		
(1) 	Introduction to the course. What is language? What is linguistics?	
Week 2 (8/31 – 9/6)		
(1) 	Prescriptivism & Descriptivism, Dialects	Chapter 18 (p279 – 284)
(2) 	The origin of language, Design features of language, Animal Communication	Chapter 1, 2, Quiz 1
		Homework 1 Due Sunday
Week 3 (9/7 – 9/13)		
(1) 	Phonetics, Phonology	Chapter 3, Chapter 4 (skip 'Natural Classes', 'Phones and Allophones', read 'Minimal Pairs and Sets', 'Phonotactics', 'Syllables' and 'Consonant Clusters'), Quiz 2
(2) 	Morphology	p 75-79
		Homework 2 Due Sunday

Week 4 (9/14 – 9/20)		
(1) 	Grammar (Syntax)	Chapter 7, Quiz 3
(2) 	Semantics	Chapter 9 -- p 134 ('Lexical Relations') - 139
		Homework 3 Due Sunday
Week 5 (9/21 – 9/27)		
(1) 	Review	
(2)	Exam I (Take Home)	Study all material in Unit I
Week 6 (9/28 – 10/4)		
(1) 	Language & the Brain	Chapter 12
(2) 	Language & the Brain	
Week 7 (10/5 – 10/11)		
(1) 	L1 Acquisition	Chapter 13, Quiz 4
(2) 	L1 Acquisition	
		Homework 4 Due
Week 8 (10/12 – 10/18)		
(1) 	L2 Acquisition	Chapter 14, Quiz 4
(2) 	L2 Acquisition	
Week 9 (10/19 – 10/25)		
(1) 	Sign Languages	Chapter 15, Quiz 5
(2) 	Language Processing / Computational Linguistics	
		Homework 5 & SLA Part 1 Due
Week 10 (10/26 – 11/1)		
(1) 	Review	
(2)	Exam 2 (Take Home)	Study all material between Exam 1 and this point.
Week 11 (11/2 – 11/8)		
(1) 	Language History and Change	Chapter 5, Chapter 17 (skip 'Comparative Reconstruction'), Quiz 6
(2) 	Language History and Change	SLA Part 2 Due
Week 12 (11/9 – 11/15)		
(1) 	Language History and Change	Homework 6 Due before class
(2) 	Language History and Change	
		SLI Project Due
Week 13 (11/16 – 11/22)		
(1) 	Language and Culture, Language and Thought, Endangered Languages	Chapter 20, Chapter 18 (284-288), Quiz 7
(2) 	Language and Culture, Language and Thought, Endangered Languages	

Week 14 (11/23 – 11/29)		
(1) 	Language and Culture, Language and Thought, Endangered Languages	
(2)	No class, Thanksgiving Break	
Week 15 (11/30 – 12/6)		
(1) 	Writing Systems	Chapter 16, Quiz 8
(2) 	Writing Systems	
		Homework 7 Due
Week 16 (12/7 – 12/13)		
(1) 	Review	
	TAKE-HOME FINAL DUE DURING FINALS WEEK	

Useful dates to note:

Friday 9/11	Census date (last day to add a class)
Monday 10/5	Last day to register to vote in Texas (postmark)
10/13 – 10/30	Early Voting Period
Tuesday 11/3	Election Day
Friday 11/6	Last day to drop classes without an F

More Course Policies

Classroom behavior. Class sessions require your full attention. All cell phones, iPods, MP3 players, laptops, and other electronic devices should be turned off and put away when entering the classroom; all earpieces should be removed. Store homework from other classes, newspapers, crosswords, magazines, bulky bags, and other distractions so that you can concentrate on the readings and discussions each day. In some cases, you will need to use a laptop, tablet, or phone for an activity, please try to not be distracted by other applications on your device at that time. Note: I reserve the right to ask you to leave the classroom if you are being disruptive.

According to *Student Conduct and Discipline*, "students are prohibited from engaging in or attempting to engage in conduct, either alone or in concert with others, that is intended to obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with, or that in fact obstructs, disrupts, or interferes with any instructional, educational, research, administrative, or public performance or other activity authorized to be conducted in or on a University facility. Obstruction or disruption includes, but is not limited to, any act that interrupts, modifies, or damages utility service or equipment, communication service or equipment, or computer equipment, software, or networks" (UTA Handbook or Operating Procedures, Ch. 2, Sec. 2-202). Students who do not respect the guidelines listed above or who disrupt other students' learning may be asked to leave class and/or referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

And a further note on civility in the classroom: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class. Appropriate student behavior (whether online, in person, or over the telephone) creates a better environment for learning and teaching.

Canvas. This course will utilize Canvas this semester. Some materials will be available via Canvas. All homeworks will be submitted this way. It can be accessed by logging into <http://uta.instructure.edu>. It is your responsibility to make sure that you are able to access Canvas, and to check it regularly.

Electronic Communication Policy. All students must have access to a computer with Internet capabilities. Students should check email daily for course information and updates. I will send group emails through MyMav and/or through Canvas. I am happy to communicate with students through email. However, I ask that you be wise in your use of this tool. I check my email periodically during the school week and occasionally on the weekend. I do not monitor my email 24 hours a day; however, I do try to respond to emails within 24 hours of receiving them. If you don't have a response from me by email within 24 hours of sending it, please come see me in class or resend your email as there may be a chance it was lost in cyberspace. (Also, please make sure that you use your MavMail address—not your hotmail, gmail, yahoo, etc. addresses—when emailing me.)

The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University "MavMail" address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Syllabus and Schedule Changes. Instructors try to make their syllabuses as complete as possible; however, during the course of the semester they may be required to alter, add, or abandon certain policies/assignments. Instructors reserve the right to make such changes as they become necessary. Students will be informed of any changes in writing.

Important Academic and Administrative Policies

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Disability Accommodations: UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)**. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671.

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.*

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

While the Department of Linguistics and TESOL hopes to foster a sense of community in which students can enhance their educational experience by conferring with each other about the lectures, readings, and assignments, all work submitted must be the **product of each student's own effort**. Students are expected to know and honor the standards of academic integrity followed by American universities; ignorance of these standards is not an excuse for committing an act of academic dishonesty (including plagiarism or collusion). If you have questions, please speak with your instructor, your academic advisor, or the department chair.

Please be advised that departmental policy requires instructors to formally file charges with the Office of Student Conduct, following procedures as laid out for faculty (<http://www.uta.edu/studentaffairs/conduct/faculty.html>), as well as notify the department chair of the filing of the charges.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Librarians to Contact: The reference librarians for Linguistics and TESOL are Diane Shepelwich and Gretchen Trkay (modling@uta.edu).

Writing Center: Hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mondays-Thursdays, 9 am to 3 pm Fridays and Noon to 5 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Walk In *Quick Hits* sessions during all open hours Mon-Thurs. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, Workshops, and advanced services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located to the right and up the stairs. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.*