Linguistics 102: An introduction to the study of language
Unit Mastery
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

Time: 9:00 am – 3:20 pm
Testing Center: Moore 103
Instructor: Jake Terrell
E-mail: jterrell@hawaii.edu
Office: 574 Moore Hall
Office hours: 9:00 am – 3:20 pm
Phone: 956-3236
in Moore 103

Graduate Assistants:
TBA

Required Textbook: *An introduction to the study of language*. Linguistics 102 class reader. The reader is available for purchase from MaPS – Manoa Advertising Printing Services – here:

http://manoa.hawaii.edu/crdg/curriculum-materials/maps/contact-us/

1. Course Description. This course is an introduction to the study of language. There are many misconceptions about language, its development, structure, and use. Therefore, the main objective of this course is to provide you with an opportunity to examine language from a linguist’s perspective—one from an analytical and scientific point of view. It is my hope that throughout the semester you will reevaluate your own opinions about language as you learn how it is integrated within culture, history, society and cognition.

1.2 Student Learning Outcomes. Upon successful completion of the course, students will:

1) be an educated citizen in terms of how language structure and use is related to daily life,
2) be able to independently carry out research regarding language,
3) be able to describe in formal prose aspects of language structure and use to the layperson,
4) develop critical reading and time management skills, since this is an independent study course offered in the Unit Mastery format.

2. Format. In Unit Mastery there are no classes or lectures per se. Instead, students are expected to study on their own, and then pass a series of quizzes as well as fulfill other course requirements independently.

Time management skills are necessary in order to succeed in a Unit Mastery course. Although this format does not require class meetings, one should still expect to devote as much time to a Unit Mastery course as they would a traditional course. Aside from the regular time needed for reading and studying, you should set aside at least two hours per week to visit the testing center.

3. Writing Intensive (WI) & requirements. This is a writing-intensive (WI) course and students will receive WI credit upon successful completion of the course requirements. Accordingly, a substantial amount of the final grade (50%) will come from writing assignments. More information concerning the writing-intensive component of the course can be found below under Section 5, Course Requirements.

4. Testing Center. The testing center is located in Moore Hall, 103, and is open 9:00 am – 3:20 pm. Please note that the test center must close by 3:20 pm to allow for other classes to be held in the same
room; therefore, we cannot give out exams after 3:10.

**House Rules:**
- Turn off cell phones,
- No cell phones on desk or in view,
- No headphones or music,
- No talking,
- No eating or drinking.

*Your friends may not accompany you into the testing center. (Unless, of course, they too are enrolled in the class.)*

If you fail to follow these rules, you will be asked to leave the testing center. Repeated offenses may result in dismissal from the testing center for the rest of the semester.

The house rules may seem overbearing, but they exist for a reason. I would be upset if another student interfered with your test-taking by violating these rules, and I expect you would feel the same. Likewise, I would not want you to inadvertently distract others who are testing by doing any of the above.

4.1 In the testing center.

*Always bring your student ID* – you cannot receive an exam without your student ID.

The testing center is divided into three sections. To the right you will find desks turned towards the windows. This section is the study area. You may study or review your notes here (but do so alone, if you need to study in a group, you should go elsewhere). *Note: during gates, this area may not be available for studying.*

When you are ready to take an exam, approach the instructor or the Graduate Assistants (GAs) and request the appropriate exam. You will be required to leave your student ID at the desk while you take the exam.

In the center of the room there are rows of desks facing the front. This area is reserved for testing. Here you may have nothing on your desk other than a pencil/pen and the exam. When you have finished the exam, return it to the GAs. A GA will grade your exam while you wait. The GAs will mark each question, but not reveal the correct answers.

After your exam has been graded, a GA will call your name and return your exam. If you wish to review your exam, you may do so in the area next to the windows. However, *note the following:*

**Reviewing area policies:**
1. You may review your exam in this area, and compare it with your notes or textbook,
2. You may *not* write or record any of the exam questions,
3. No pens or pencils are allowed in this area,
4. You may not take exams out of testing center.

5. Course Requirements.

5.1 Gates. The semester is divided into three sections which we refer to as “gates”. Each gate is roughly five weeks apart. You must master at least 12 units throughout the semester. You can receive credit for up to five units during each gate. It is possible to master more than five units during one gate; however, you can only carry extra units forward, not backward.

This means that you may work ahead, *but it will be difficult to catch up if you fall behind.* For example, if you master 12 units before the first gate, you will receive credit for five units for the first gate,
five for the second, and two for the third. On the other hand, if you master zero units during the first gate, and then ten in the second, you can only receive credit for five units for the second gate and five for the third, a total of 10 units. If you master zero units in the first and second gates, and then 10 units in the third gate, you can only receive credit for five units for the third gate and none for the previous gates.

Again, it is easy to work ahead, but please be cautious of falling behind.

5.2 Quizzes. Each quiz consists of ten multiple choice questions. In order to “master” a unit, you must pass a quiz with a grade of 7/10 or higher. If you score below 7 for a particular unit, you may try again twice more, though not on the same day. (Note: It is possible to test for more than one unit per day after you reach the optional units section.) Each time you retake an exam you will receive a different version for the same unit. If you are not able to master a unit within three attempts, you must move on to the next unit. Each mastered unit will count for 3.75% points toward the final grade of a total of 100% points. In order to receive an ‘A+’ in the class, you must master at least 12 units (45% of your grade) in addition to the other criteria below (see writing assignments, LBC, and LiC below).

5.3 Readings and units. The first three units in the reader serve as the introduction to the latter units. Therefore, you must take these three units in order. After mastering the three core units in order (or attempting each at least three times) you may choose from any of the remainder units in the textbook and test in any order.

Obligatory Core units:
- Core 1. What is language?, chapter 1
- Core 2. Symphony of Sounds, chapter 2
- Core 3. A brief look at grammar, chapter 3

Optional units: you may test on these in any order
- Dictionaries, chapter 4
- Languages of the Pacific, chapter 5
- An introduction to Pidgins and Creoles, chapter 6
- Language Variation, chapter 7
- Bilingualism, Codeswitching, and Humor, chapter 8
- Language Endangerment, chapter 9
- Language Acquisition, chapter 10
- Language and the Brain, chapter 11
- Talking to robots, talking to ourselves: exploring computers and language, chapter 12
- Writing Systems, chapter 13
- Hawaiian: how an alphabet evolved, chapter 14
- Animal Communication, chapter 15

5.4 Writing Assignments. The Writing Intensive (WI) designation is an important component of Linguistics 102. In order to help students fully digest the materials covered throughout the semester, it is necessary to complete a number of written assignments with a satisfactory mark.

There are two types of writing assignments. The first type is an academic essay, of which two must be completed during each of the first two gates. Like the quizzes, you can receive credit for up to two essays per gate; additional essays completed during the first gate will carry forward to the second gate. (There
are no essays for the third gate, only the mini-term paper.)

The essays can cover any unit in the reader, even if you have not yet tested on a particular unit. Each essay must be at least two full double-spaced pages, excluding references. To give you some direction, the instructor will provide a series of prompts for each unit. The prompts will be in the form of questions or statements related to the unit, and will be posted in the ‘resources’ folder in the Laulima course website. You are free to choose from these prompts, or address an alternative issue related to the materials.

To aid in developing writing skills, you must submit two versions for each essay—a first draft and then a second draft following the suggestions provided by the instructor and graduate assistants. Therefore you should anticipate writing four or more pages for each essay assignment (2+ page draft, 2+ page revision for each, 16 pages in total). If you do not submit a revision of a draft, the “hypothetical” grade on the first draft will be counted.

The second writing assignment is a mini-term paper which is an expansion of one of your previous essays. The paper must be a minimum of five pages (excluding title page and references). For this assignment, you will not be allowed to submit a first draft. Instead, it is expected that your experiences and feedback from the essay exercises will enable you to submit a polished, final work—the very objective of WI courses. Additional guidelines for the essays and the mini-term paper are available on the course Laulima website.

5.5 Grading. Finally, to assist you throughout this process, each student will be assigned to a personal writing tutor. The tutor will be either the instructor or a graduate assistant for the course. Our goal is not to compare one student’s ability to another, but to ensure that you work to develop your own writing skills. Therefore, we will keep a detailed journal for each student, and base your grades on improvements made from previous essays through our feedback and suggestions. The writing assignments are assessed on a scale of 1 to 10. The hypothetical score on the first draft is only to indicate where you stand at that moment, and how much you need to improve to get a perfect score. In order to earn 10 out of 10 on the second draft, you must take into account all suggestions and corrections provided by your tutor.

Please note: Time management is of the upmost importance here. Remember, you must submit a second, edited draft of each essay in order to receive credit for the assignment. Keep in mind that it will take some time for your tutor to respond to your first draft, as they too are graduate students with full-time schedules. You may expect to wait up to three or four days for EACH essay you submit before receiving comments on your essay. You should also take into account the time you will need to complete any revisions in order to turn the assignments in on time. If you expect to receive feedback on your writing, for example, the first drafts gate 1 should be submitted by Feb. 1st, and the first drafts for gate 2 should be submitted by March 8th. If you do not meet these deadlines, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to provide feedback on your drafts.

If you have any questions concerning assignment assessments or requirements, you are more than welcome to contact the instructor.

6. Linguistics beyond the classroom (LBC). The Department of Linguistics has a special program called Linguistics Beyond the Classroom. Here, students enrolled in linguistics courses have the opportunity to participate in linguistic experiments conducted by faculty and graduate students at UH. Participation in this program will count towards 5% of your final grade. Each experiment runs around 40 minutes to an hour.

It is not mandatory that you participate, but we feel that this will help you better understand how the field researches language. If you choose not to participate in the LBC, you may master an extra unit (13 in total) to make up for this portion of the course requirements.
A separate handout on LBC is available in the Department office, Moore Hall 569, in the testing center, or on the LBC website: http://www.ling.hawaii.edu/LBC/projects.html

7. Social Outings, Linguistics in the Community (LiC). There will be at least two opportunities throughout the semester to earn supplementary credit towards your final grade. These opportunities come in the form of social outings, where you can choose to attend a preapproved play, exhibition, seminar or festival which is related to the reading materials. To receive credit for an outing, you must submit a one-page response or summary of the event. You may use these outings to supplement or make up for up to two quizzes or one essay.

Additional information on social outings, including updates of approved events, will be available on the Laulima website under the resources folder.

8. Progress and grading rubric. It is important for you to keep track of your own progress throughout the semester. Beginning in the second week of the semester, I will post a progress report to you via Laulima’s Post ‘Em tool. Please cross-reference this records with your own. Below is the grading rubric.

**Grading rubric.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>98 –100 : A+</th>
<th>73 – 77 : C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93 – 97 : A</td>
<td>70 – 72 : C-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 – 92 : A-</td>
<td>68 – 69 : D+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LBC (or an additional unit) = 5% points</td>
<td>88 – 89 : B+</td>
<td>63 – 67 : D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 – 87 : B</td>
<td>60 – 62 : D-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 – 82 : B-</td>
<td>59 –below : F</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing assignments: Essays, four at 10% points each (scale of 1 to 10) = 40% points</td>
<td>78 – 79 : C+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini-term paper</td>
<td>10% points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: 100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Two social outings may be used to replace either two quizzes or one essay.*

**Note: an Incomplete (I) is not an option for Unit Mastery courses.**

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

January 1\textsuperscript{st}, first day of classes, testing begins, January 14\textsuperscript{th}, last day to drop without a “W”, January 16\textsuperscript{th}, last day to add a course, last day to change grading option, March 8\textsuperscript{th}, last day to drop with a “W”, May 1\textsuperscript{st}, last day of testing.

**GATES:**

Feb. 8\textsuperscript{th}, first gate. It is recommended that you pass at least four units by this date. Any additional units will be carried forward. The final draft of the first two essays are due by midnight.

March 15\textsuperscript{th}, second gate. It is recommended that you pass at least an additional five units during this date, any additional units will be carried forward. Final drafts of the third and fourth essays are due by midnight.

May 1\textsuperscript{st}, third gate, last day of testing. You may master up to five units
during this period. The mini-term paper is due by midnight. This is the last day to receive LBC credit.

**Academic dishonesty** includes plagiarism and cheating. Students who violate the University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. **Policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.**

Note: If you have disability-related needs or concerns, please contact the Kokua program (phone: 956-7511).

**Calendar**

Please use this calendar to keep track of which units you have passed and on which dates.

* Recommended number of units that you should pass by this date assuming that you will not participate in LBC or LiC opportunities.

### Spring, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes begin, first day of testing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*1 unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to withdraw without &quot;W&quot;.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Last day to add/change grade option</td>
<td></td>
<td>*2 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King Jr. Day, no classes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*4 units;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
<td>Presidents’ day, no classes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**March**

**Gate 1**
Pass at least four quizzes by this date. Submit final drafts for first two essays via Laulima by midnight.

**Gate 2**
Pass at least eight units by this date. Submit final drafts for...
second two essays via Laulima by midnight.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>18</th>
<th>19</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Spring Break, no classes</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Spring break</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**April**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*10 units
*11 units
*12 units

**May**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 Gate 3. Last day of testing. Last day to receive credit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
for any LiC or LBC. Submit mini-term paper via Laulima by midnight.