

Introduction to Morphology LIN4400

Instructor: Marcin Dadan

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Classes: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:35-10:25 (Period 3) @ MAT 0102

Office hours: M/W/F 12:50-1:40 (6th) or by appointment @ TUR 4106

Always send me an email if you want to meet. We will find the time that works for both of us!

Course Description: Morphology is the subfield of linguistics that deals with the internal structure of ‘words’. The goal of morphological research is to describe and explain the word-related structure patterns found across the world’s languages. This course will introduce students to the basic phenomena of morphological structure, using data from a diverse array of languages. This course will also be an exercise in theory building as we will be building, updating, and revising increasingly sophisticated and explanatory theory of morpho-syntactic structure.

We will address questions such as:

- What are ‘words’ and what is their status in linguistics?
- How do word structure and sentence structure relate to one another?
- What’s the relationship between the structure of words and their pronunciation?
- Do we need a distinct theory of word formation?

Students who complete this course will be able to:

- Analyze complex words into their meaningful parts, both in English and unfamiliar languages
- Distinguish and formalize regular morphological and phonological grammar rules
- Discuss the broad issues of words structure in the context of the overall architecture of mental grammar

Required Textbook: Haspelmath, Martin & Andrea D Sims. 2010. *Understanding Morphology*, 2nd edition. Routledge.

Additional Readings: Handouts, additional readings, and assignments will be posted on the course website on CANVAS—you are encouraged to visit it frequently. You need to read the assigned material before coming to the class.

Both exams and homework will be based not only on the textbook, but also additional readings and handouts.

Classes: The attendance is obligatory. Classes will be conducted as lectures with exercises based on the assigned readings. In order to follow the material and be able to actively participate in solving the exercises you need to come prepared, i.e., having read the assigned material. Classes should also help you to clarify any confusing and difficult notions you may have encountered in the readings. You are welcome to ask questions and participate in the discussion.

Exams: There will be two in-class exams based on the (all) readings, handouts, and class exercises.

Homework: There will be 5-6 homeworks throughout the semester. All will be posted on Canvas. Make sure to check the most recent version of the syllabus to see the due dates. Homeworks must be typed and submitted on Canvas (in either .doc or .pdf format) or handed in during the class when they are due. Extensions can be given in special circumstances only. You are welcome to discuss the homework problems with other members of this class only. You must write up your solutions entirely on your own, without help, in accordance with the University of Florida Honor Code and the academic honesty guidelines. What you turn in for credit and grading must be entirely your own work.

Additional ‘catch-phrase’ assignment: Every second week you should submit one (or more) interesting expression(s) (from English or other language) spotted ‘in the wild’. This could be a word or a phrase which for some linguistic reason you find ‘intriguing’. This could be because the phrase/expression is hard to analyze or reveals something really cool about human language. You should give me the reference (where you spotted it), reasons for being interesting, and some attempt at the analysis of this expression.

Grading: Course grades will be determined as shown below:

| | | | | |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----------|
| Exam 1: 25% | A | 93 | C | 73 |
| Exam 2: 25% | A- | 90 | C- | 70 |
| Homework: 40% | B+ | 87 | D+ | 67 |
| Catch-phrase: 10% | B | 83 | D | 63 |
| | B- | 80 | D- | 60 |
| | C+ | 77 | F | below 60 |

Additional information about the University’s grade policies is available:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Other information:

Missed/late work & absences: You should assume that late work will not be accepted. All requests for exceptions due to illness, religious obligations, unexpected emergencies, or other extenuating circumstances must be made before the exam date or homework due date.

Academic honesty: Academic misconduct, including but not limited to cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated. It may result in disciplinary action and failure in the course. The University has an Honor Code which reads as follows: *We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.* The honor code is accessible online:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>.

The bottom line is: On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.*

Copying or sharing any part of your homework assignments in any way, shape, or form is strictly prohibited. For computer work, this includes, but is not limited to, using the same

file/document as someone else, using a modified file/document, or copying information between files/documents. No written work may be a joint effort in any way unless explicitly permitted and stated.

Electronics: Cell phones are expected to be on silent and stored away. Cell phone use will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal from class. Laptops and tablets are allowed in class for class-related purposes only.

Accommodations for students with disabilities: Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting:

<https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>.

It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course evaluations: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at:

<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/>

Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.

Health & Wellness: *U Matter, We Care:* If you are or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

Tentative Schedule: See the next page for the tentative schedule. All dates and topics are subject to change based on our pace. You will be informed about any changes in the syllabus. Pay attention to the 'Syllabus' section on CANVAS and class announcements for an up-to-date schedule. 'HS' in the reading section refers to relevant chapters from Haspelmath & Sims (2010) (our primary textbook). All other readings will be posted on CANVAS. All readings for a particular week must be done before the class. It will help you getting the most out of each class and the whole course.

| Week | Dates | Topics | Readings | Notes / Work |
|------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 | Jan 06, | Introduction | HS Ch1 | |
| | Jan 08, 10 | Basic Concepts | HS Ch2 | |
| 2 | Jan 13 | Rules & Patterns | HS Ch3-3.1.5 | Homework 1 |
| | Jan 15, 17 | Lexeme Formation | Lieber Ch5 | |
| 3 | Jan 22, 24 | Rules & Approaches | HS Ch3.2 | |
| 4 | Jan 27, 29 | Lexicon | HS Ch4 + | Homework 1 DUE |
| | Jan 31 | | Lieber Ch2-2.4 | Homework 2 |
| 5 | Feb 3, 5, 7 | Inflection & Derivation | HS Ch5 | |
| 6 | Feb 10,(12),14 | More Inflection & Paradigms | HS Ch 8 | Homework 2 DUE |
| 7 | Feb 17, 19, | Structure & Hierarchy | HS Ch7 | |
| | Feb 21 | Words & Phrases 1 | HS Ch 9 | Homework 3 |
| 8 | Feb 24 | Words & Phrases 2 | HS Ch 9 | |
| | Feb 26, 28 | Review & Midterm | HS Ch1-5, 7-9 | Homework 3 DUE |
| 9 | Mar 2-8 | SPRING BREAK | | |
| 10 | Mar 9, 11, 13 | Morphophonology | HS Ch10 | Homework 4 |
| 11 | Mar 16, 18, 20 | Morphosyntax: Valence | HS Ch11 | |
| 12 | Mar 23, 25 | Typology | Lieber Ch7 | Homework 4 DUE |
| | March 27 | Productivity 1 | HS Ch6 | Homework 5 |
| 13 | March 30 | Productivity 2 | HS Ch6 | |
| | Apr 01 | Morphology & Lg Acquisition | Harley Ch8 | |
| | Apr 03 | Morphology & Lg Change | Booij Ch8 | Homework 5 DUE |
| 14 | Apr 06 | Theories & Challenges | Lieber Ch10 | Homework 6 |
| | Apr 08, 10 | Intro to Distributed Morphology | McG-H 2017 | |
| 15 | Apr 13, 15, 17 | Vocabulary Insertion, Syncretism, | Embick Ch4-5 | |
| | | Underspecification | | Homework 6 DUE |
| 16 | Apr 20, 22 | Review | | |
| 17 | TBA | FINAL EXAM | | |