

Fall 2012
Linguistics 451(01): History of Linguistic Thought
Time: MWF 11:00–11:50
Location: ST 055

Instructor: Dr. Robert W. Murray
Office: SS 824
Office Hours: Wednesday: 1530–1630 (and by appointment)
Telephone: 220-8109
E-mail: rwmurray@ucalgary.ca

Course Materials

- Instructor Handouts (on Blackboard).
- Most of the reading material will be available electronically through Blackboard. A handful of items protected by copyright will only be made available at UofC Library Reserve Services.

Course Description

A survey of major schools of linguistic thought. Focus on the origin and development of concepts central to contemporary linguistic theory.

Course Focus and Format

The course is divided into two complementary streams (i and ii). Items iii–v are also key aspects of the course.

- (i) **Lectures:** The lectures treat **theoretical attempts to describe and explain sound change**, beginning in the mid 19th century. We focus primarily on the following three sub-areas, and consider the strengths and weaknesses of each.
- Foundational: the neogrammarian vs. Schuchardian approaches
 - Traditional: structuralist/generative approaches, including Labovian linguistics and Evolutionary Phonology
 - Newly Developing: Usage-based and exemplar theoretic models
- (ii) **Background Readings:** A set of general readings will be assigned. We do not treat this material directly in class, but you can always raise questions in class or at the ReviewFests. The final exam will be based on a portion of this material (and only this material).
- (iii) **Presentations:** The final weeks of classes will be dedicated to your presentations—two presentations per class.
- (iv) **Roundtables:** We will have two roundtables in October. The class is divided into two groups (you only need to attend one roundtable) and each of you will outline the topic you want to investigate for your paper. These are informal sessions. Their purpose is to ensure that your topic is appropriate and to give you early feedback.
- (v) **ReviewFests**
Given adequate demand, ReviewFests outside of regular class time will be organized prior to each test.

Grading

- Two Tests (@ 20% each): Lecture material **40%**
- One Test: Background Readings, Part 1 **10%**

- One Paper/Presentation: **40%**
(The grade is based on the paper. However, up to 5% can be deducted for inadequate presentation materials; e.g. absence of appropriate supporting material.)
- Final Exam: Background Readings, Part 2 **10%**

Grade Scale: 98%, A+; 95%, A; 90%, A-; 86%, B+; 80%, B; 75%, B-; 68%, C+; 62%, C; 58%, C-; 55%, D+; 50%, D; < 50%, F.

Schedule (to be confirmed in class):

Test 1: October 1 (Lecture Material)

Test 2: November 9 (Background Readings, Part 1)

Test 3: November 16 (Lecture Material)

Final: Registrar-scheduled (on Background Readings, Part 2)

Presentations: Approximately November 19–December 7

Paper: Due December 10

Paper

The paper should provide a fairly in-depth discussion of a particular approach (for example, American structuralism and sound change) or a particular topic from the perspective of at least two approaches (for example, neogrammarian change vs. lexical diffusion). **The paper does not have to treat sound change;** any topic—more or less—in the area of language change is fair game. In fact, unless you have a special interest in phonology/phonetics/sound change, it is probably better to pursue a different topic altogether; e.g. you could discuss two perspectives on the role of language acquisition in accounting for language change; the development of markedness theory, etc. The paper should include references to at least five items of scholarship not specifically discussed in class. The paper should be a maximum of 15 double-spaced pages. More details and sample topics will be provided in class.

Presentation

20 minutes plus 5 minutes for discussion. The final classes will be dedicated to the presentations.

The *Unified Style Sheet for Linguistics* and the *Style Sheet* of the Linguistic Society of America should be carefully followed when preparing any written work. This topic will be discussed in class and a simplified copy of the *Style Sheet* will be provided. A proper “handout” (electronic and/or hardcopy) is essential for presentations. The preparation of a presentation will also be discussed in class.

Not-So-Fine Print

1. **Phones of any kind cannot be visible during class. Texting during class time constitutes unacceptable behaviour.**
2. It will not be possible to make up a missed Test. In the case of an excused absence from a Test, the item will not be counted and the weighting of the item will be moved to the Final. Valid excuses for Test absence are birth, death, and serious illness involving yourself or members of your immediate family on the day of the Test. All excuses must be substantiated by the appropriate documentation. An unexcused absence from a Test will result in a grade of zero for that item. There are no make-up Tests.
3. The prerequisites for this course are Linguistics 201 & 203 or equivalent. A student may not register in any linguistics course unless a grade of at least ‘C-’ has been achieved in all prerequisites for that course.
4. The Undergraduate Advisor for Linguistics is Robert Murray, SS 824 (lingadv@ucalgary.ca); the Graduate Program Director is Susanne Carroll, SS 830 (linggrad@ucalgary.ca).
5. Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct

Students should be aware that there are severe penalties for cheating and other forms of academic misconduct. Please read the section in The University of Calgary Calendar entitled 'Student Misconduct'. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data, and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Some course assignments call for students to work in groups. Unless noted otherwise in writing, students must write up their own answers for submission of the assignment. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Possible penalties for plagiarism include: failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of plagiarism is also guilty of academic misconduct.

GENERAL COURSE/UNIVERSITY INFORMATION FOR ALL STUDENTS

LINGUISTICS STUDENT ADVISING

For any questions regarding the undergraduate program in linguistics, the organization of your program, or the selection of courses, contact:

Undergraduate Advisor Dr Robert Murray SS 824 403-220-8109
lingadv@ucalgary.ca

FACULTY of ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING and STUDENT INFORMATION

The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) 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 that they require. The PIC is located in the Social Sciences Building, please contact them by phone 403-220-3580 for their current office location, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or visit the website <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (SSC). Degree advisors assist undergraduate students in planning their overall degree programs along with providing broad educational planning, learning support, assistance with academic difficulties, academic program guidance, writing support, success seminars and peer support. The SSC is on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library, or you can contact them on 403-220-5881, by email success@ucalgary.ca, or visit their website <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/>.

For registration issues, contact Enrolment Services who will also be able to help you with questions about fee payments, awards, financial aid, admissions questions, visiting and exchange students, open studies, transcripts, deferred exams. Enrolment Services are in the MacKimmie Library Block, Room 117, or you can contact them on 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit their website <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. **You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.**

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACT (FOIP)

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act was enacted by the Alberta Legislature on June 1, 1994. The Act is intended first of all to allow any person the right of access to the records in the custody and under the control of a public body although this right is subject to limited and specific exceptions. The Act also includes a strong right to privacy component, allowing individuals to control the manner in which a public body collects personal information, to control the use that a public body may make of the information, and to control the disclosure of that information by a public body. It also allows individuals the right of access to personal information about themselves held by a public body and the right to request corrections to that information.

For more information on FOIP, please visit the website <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/>, or contact Jo-Anne Munn Gafuik at 403-220-3602 or by email munnafu@ucalgary.ca

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

1. the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
2. parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,;
3. the whole work (e.g. an essay) is copied from another source; and/or
4. a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Students are often encouraged to work together in preparing homework assignments, but check with your instructor beforehand. However, unless noted otherwise in writing, students must write up their own answers for submission of the assignment. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Possible penalties for plagiarism include: failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of plagiarism is also guilty of academic misconduct.

For more information on academic misconduct and related UofC regulations please consult the Student Misconduct web pages in the on-line University Calendar. These can be found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION AND ASSEMBLY POINTS

The University of Calgary is committed to creating a safe and healthy living and learning environment. The health and safety of our employees, students and the general public are the highest priority of the University of Calgary's Emergency Management Program. During times of emergency, Assembly Points have been identified across campus. These areas have been selected as they are large enough to hold a significant number of people and will provide an evacuated population access to washroom facilities and protection from the elements. Assembly points are also designed to establish a location for information updates:

- from the emergency responders to the evacuees; and
- from the evacuated population to the emergency responders.

Please familiarize yourself with the following:

Emergency Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Emergency Instructions: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/node/28>

SAFEWALK INFORMATION

Twenty four hours a day and seven days a week, Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors. Requesting Safewalk volunteers to walk with you is easy:

- Call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/seven days a week, 365 days a year)
- Use the Help Phones (they are not just for emergencies)
- Approach an on-duty Safewalker and request a walk

For more information, contact the Safewalk main office at 403-220-4750, by email safewalk@ucalgary.ca or visit their website <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

The Students' Union and the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) in partnership with the University of Calgary offers students a key advocacy resource to assist in addressing concerns and issues they encounter at the University with the Student Ombuds Office.

For students in undergraduate programs, please contact the Student's Union in the MacEwan Student Centre, Room MSC 251, on 403-220-6551, by email arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca, or visit their website <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

For students in graduate programs, please contact the GSA in the MacEwan Student Centre, Room MSC 350, on 403-220-5997, by email ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca or visit their website <http://gsa.ucalgary.ca/>
The Student Ombuds Office is in the Administration Building, Room A166, or you can contact them on 403-220-6420, by email ombuds@ucalgary.ca or visit their website <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>