

Linguistics 195B

Syllabus, Fall 2000

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Office Hours: Wednesday, 10-12 AM

Official time: Monday, 9-10 AM
Official place: SSCI 312

Course Homepage:

http://www.u.arizona.edu/ic/polis/fall00/Course-Homesite.cgi?LING_195B-1

You can get there from my homepage, or from StudentLink: Class Availability, or by searching for POLIS (Project for On-Line Instructional Support) from the UofA site.

Email discussion list: 195B@listserv.arizona.edu

You must be enrolled in the class to use this list.

Rules of use:

Do not use it for personal mail or for SPAM (commercial mail)

Keep all messages polite and scholarly. Do not flame (attack) anyone on the list

Violators will be removed from the list.

Course Requirements, Evaluation

25% Class Participation

10% Presentation

25% Final Quiz

(Officially: Friday Dec. 15, 8-10 am)

10% Preliminary draft of short paper

(4-8 pages, 12 pt. font, double spaced, 1 1/2 inch margins)

Due: Monday, October 30th

30% Final draft of short paper

Due: Monday, December 4th

Policy on missed classes: If you miss a class without making a prior arrangement with me, you lose 1/15th of your class participation grade. I don't like excuses in general; if you think you had absolutely no other choice than to miss a class (e.g. you were hit by a car just as you were arriving on campus), I will listen to your story, but you're better off dragging your mangled body to class.

Policy on late work: If your paper is late without making a prior arrangement with me, you will lose 5 per cent of your paper grade for every day late. After 8 days (40 per cent), you're down to a *maximum* grade of D. That means that, after 8 days, if your paper isn't absolutely perfect, it'll fail (and no paper is ever absolutely perfect).

Policy on cheating, plagiarism: I'll fail you in the course, and contemplate initiating other disciplinary procedures, up to and including recommending expulsion and criminal proceedings.

Otherwise, this should be a fun course! ☺

Textbooks:

Language Myths, 1998, by Laurie Bauer and Peter Trudgill. London: Penguin Books
Patterns in the Mind, 1994, by Ray Jackendoff. New York: BasicBooks (HarperCollins)

General plan of course content:

We will go through 15 of the Language Myths, supplemented with readings from Jackendoff, discussing one every week. Each of you will present one myth, and initiate discussion. The goals of the course are to present you with interesting material about language, get you to think critically about it and discuss your thoughts in group situations, and to get you to produce a piece of original work investigating one of the issues discussed in class. We'll also conduct some on-line discussions, and have a session in the computer lab exploring on-line resources.