

# Introduction to Linguistics – Course Manual 2019

## 1. Lecturer and seminar teachers

- Lecturer: dr. Bobby Ruijgrok ([b.ruijgrok@uva.nl](mailto:b.ruijgrok@uva.nl)) + guest lecturers
- Seminar teachers: dr. Caitlin Meyer ([c.m.meyer@uva.nl](mailto:c.m.meyer@uva.nl)) & dr. Suki Yiu ([s.y.yiu@uva.nl](mailto:s.y.yiu@uva.nl))

## 2. Study material

- Textbook: Baker, Anne E. & Hengeveld, Kees (2012), *Linguistics*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell. (Costs: €36,30 new)
- Assignment booklet, available here {insert booklet} 
- PowerPoint lecture slides (made available on Canvas after class)
- Separate seminar assignments (made available on Canvas)

## 3. Content and educational objectives

This course provides a broad overview of the field of linguistics. Not only the structure of language will be explored, language users and linguistic communities will also receive ample attention. Through exercises and assignments you will learn how to use basic linguistic notions yourself. They will also help you acquire basic academic skills, such as carrying out an experiment, locating scientific texts and language data, reading academic texts critically, and presenting research findings.

After taking this course, you will be

- familiar with the basic concepts of linguistics;
- capable of applying this knowledge in solving linguistic problems;
- able to locate relevant scientific texts and language data in physical and digital libraries and databases;
- capable of reading and summarizing scientific texts critically;
- able to carry out a small-scale linguistic experiment and present the results.

This course prepares you for the rest of the first year (and, consequently, for the rest of the BA program). The lecture series provides basic knowledge of the field as whole, which is built upon in all later courses. In the seminars you acquire the basic academic skills that are needed to do linguistic research. These skills are further developed in block 5 and 6, when you will work on a larger-scale research project with your fellow students.

## 4. Assessment

- Final exam: 70% of final grade. The final exam is a multiple choice test about all the material covered in the textbook and the (guest) lectures.

- Seminar research project assignments: 10% of the final grade. The research project comprises 11 sub-assignments (for details see the weekly program below). The sub-assignments count up to 10 (they are equally worth 1/11 point each).  
sub-assignments:

1. Library Skills I (week 1)
2. Library Skills II (week 2)
3. Glottolog assignment (week 2)
4. Bibliography (week 2)
5. Revise Bibliography (week 3)
6. First draft Wug-test (week 3)
7. Peer-feedback on another group's wug test (week 4)
8. Academic Reading & Writing 1: summary 1 (week 4)
9. Academic Reading & Writing 2: summary 2 (week 5)
10. Finalized Wug-test (week 5, revision happens in week 4)
11. Peer feedback on Summary 2 (week 6)

- Final assignment (12): Research Presentation: 20% of the final grade.
- Passing requirement: to pass this course, you must score at least a 5.0 on the final exam AND your average grade must be a 5.5 or higher.

- **Exam date: 24 October 2019, 13:00 - 15:00 hrs. Room: USC Sporthal 1 (check rooster.uva.nl shortly before the exam for any possible changes)**

*Deadlines for assignments can be found in the weekly schedule.*

*Test results lapse after the end of the semester in which the final mark was awarded. If a student does not complete a course that is a compulsory part of their degree programme in one semester, they will have to retake the course at a later opportunity.*

*The results for the exam will be posted on Blackboard no more than 20 working days after the exam (and at least 5 working days before the resit).*

- **Resit**

*If you do not pass, you can re-sit the final exam. The re-sit for the final exam does not influence the result of the seminar assignments; these remain valid and cannot be re-done.*

*The department will not offer a new exam to students who miss an exam due to illness or other impediment. Resits are designed to provide for such circumstances. Resits are therefore not intended to always allow students two opportunities to sit an exam.*

- **Fraud and plagiarism rules**

The University of Amsterdam Fraud and Plagiarism regulations apply to the assessment of this course. These regulations can be consulted at [student.uva.nl/en/home](http://student.uva.nl/en/home) > [programme] > A-Z > Plagiarism and fraud.

## 5. Course overview by week (guest lectures in light blue)

Wk	Cl	Date	Theme/content	Preparation / assignments
1	L1	02-Sep	From Language to Linguistics	Chapter 1 & assignments (online)
	L2	05-Sep	The language user	Chapter 2 & assignments (online)
	S1	3-5 Sep	Physical library instruction (Ewa Zakrzewska) + setup research project (Form groups)	Assignment 1 Library 101
2	L3	09-Sep	Discourse and speech acts	Chapters 4+5 & assignments (online)
	L4	12-Sep	Constituents and word classes, semantic & grammatical roles	Chapter 6+7 & assignments (online)
	S2	9-12 Sep	Finding and referencing literature. Grammars, literature, discussion of library work, databases	Assignment 2 Library handout Assignment 3 Linguistic Databases/Glottolog Assignment 4 Group bibliography
3	L5	16-Sep	Language acquisition by Jeanette Schaeffer	Chapter 3 & assignments (online)
	L6	19-Sep	Complex sentences and word order	Chapters 8+9 & assignments (online)
	S3	16-19 Sep	Research questions and research design	Assignment 5 Revise Bibliography Assignment 6 First Draft Wug-test

4	L7	23-Sep	Semantics by Kees Hengeveld	Chapters 10 & assignments (online)
	L8	26-Sep	Phonetics & Phonology 1	Chapters 14+15 & assignments (online)
	S4	23-26 Sep	Academic Reading & Writing I (paraphrasing & plagiarism) Peer-review article 1 in class	Reading: Article 1 (TBD in class, week 3)  Assignment 7 Peer-feedback on other group's Wug-test  Assignment 8 Write Summary I
5	L9	30-Sep	Phonetics & Phonology 2 by Paul Boersma	Chapters 16 & assignments (online)
	L10	03-Oct	Lecture: Lexicon & Morphology; Word formation, compounds and idiomatic expressions.	Chapter 11, 12, 13 & assignments (online)
	S5	30-Sep - 3-Oct	Academic Reading & Writing II & Discuss Article 2	Reading: Article 2 (TBD in class, week 3)  Assignment 9 Write Summary II
6	L11	07-Oct	Sign linguistics by Roland Pfau	paper Pfau & assignments (online)
	L12	10-Oct	Typology	Chapter 17 & assignments (online)
	S6	7-10 Oct	Data & Presentations	Assignment 10 Finalize Wug-test  Assignment 11 Peer feedback on Summary 2

7	L13	14-Oct	Language variation and change	Chapter 18+19 & assignments (online)
	L14	17-Oct	Bilingualism by Enoch Aboh	Chapter 20 & assignments (online)
	S7	14-17 Oct	Research Project Presentations	Assignment 12 Research Project Presentation
8		24-Oct	<p>Final exam: <b>13—15 hrs, Room USC Sporthal 1</b></p> <p>(Check rooster.uva.nl beforehand for any changes!)</p>	