

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School: Arts and Humanities
Course Number: ENGL235
Course Name: Take on the World: An Introduction to Linguistics
Credit Hours: 3
Length of Course: 8 weeks
Prerequisite: ENGL101

Table of Contents

Instructor Information	Evaluation Procedures
Course Description	Grading Scale
Course Scope	Course Outline
Course Objectives	Policies
Course Delivery Method	Academic Services
Course Resources	Selected Bibliography

Instructor Information

See the syllabus section within the classroom for instructor contact information.

[Table of Contents](#)

Course Description (Catalog)

This course presents modern linguistic theories and their application to literature and teaching of English. Included will be an examination of how various grammatical models represent the complexities of sound, sequence, and structure of language. Also included will be the topics of word meaning, language variation, language and context, oral and written discourse, writing systems, literature analysis, grammar, and language planning in teaching English. (Prerequisite: ENGL101)

Course Scope

Would you like to be a better writer? Are you interested in learning a second language? Have you ever considered how some people can write great speeches or essays, or how some people can read a literary passage and understand deeper meanings hidden within, and do so easily? Linguistics is the key to unlock some of the best secrets of the English language.

Let's face it, there are some challenging languages on our Earth. English might be something that you struggled with in the past, but languages based on characters and symbols, like some languages in Asia, and languages comprised of gestures or sounds (think of American Sign Language, or Khoisan in Africa, consisting of series of clicks) all carry their own unique structure.

Now think about how you might read a Robert Frost poem in Literature class to grasp what the poet is saying about fences, or how intelligence agencies might work to translate Farsi to learn what someone said in a conversation. All of these situations benefit from the study of Linguistics, what we will study during this course.

Our course is meant to merely be an introduction to what Linguistics is about, and what studying a language's structure can help with. Even animals have a linguistic structure through their calls, and insects like bees and ants use body movement to structure their communication. We'll look to identify these points as we work together this term.

Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to

- CO-1: use scientific methods to conduct linguistic analysis at all of the different levels of linguistic structure;
- CO-2: identify and describe the characteristics of language that distinguish it from other forms of communication;

- CO-3: effectively and appropriately apply methods of linguistic analysis to language phenomena within English as well as within other languages;
- CO-4: identify the ways in which languages are acquired and analyze how they are represented/processed in the mind; and
- CO-5: apply knowledge of linguistics and language structure to other disciplines.

[Table of Contents](#)

Course Delivery Method

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to MyClassroom will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday evening of the week as noted and include Forum questions (accomplished in groups through a threaded forum) and individual assignments (submitted for review by the Faculty Member). Assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

[Table of Contents](#)

Course Resources

Required Textbook

McCabe, Anne. *An Introduction to Linguistics and Language Studies* - E-book available in the APUS Online Library.

Students can access the E-book at the following website:

http://apus.libguides.com/er.php?course_id=13633

[Table of Contents](#)

Evaluation Procedures

Forums (8 @ 5% each = 40%)

There are eight Forums in the course, and each one addresses topics using the McCabe book. Remember, the Forums are our place for classroom discussion.

Students are expected to make their initial post to the Forum each week by 11:55pm ET, Wednesday. Initial posts should be at least 200-300 words.

During the week, students should read the messages posted by the instructor and classmates and join the discussion. The instructor may ask questions, provide explanations, and include links to other resources.

Students should also respond to at least 2 classmates, and in the response posts, try to bring together pieces of the discussion and take those ideas further.

The response posts need to be at least 50-100 words, and all posts are due by 11:55pm, ET, Sunday.

The discussion rubric is attached to each Forum topic.

Written Assignments 1, 2, and 3 (30%)

These assignments will have specific and distinct areas of potential focus. Refer to each assignment's instructions and specifications within the classroom. The Written Assignment rubric is attached to each assignment's directions inside the course.

Final Paper (30%)

There are two options for this final paper:

1. Prepare a scholarly research paper on any topic of your choosing which specifically relates to the studies in this course. You may choose one of the forum topics and expand on it, or you may choose another topic from our reading. Be careful to reword anything taken from your forum posts because forum posts and assignments are submitted to Turnitin.com throughout the semester, and there is the potential for unoriginal content even if the work is your own.

-or-

2. Prepare a scholarly research paper in which you explore a second language in terms of three different or interrelated elements. You might choose from its words, senses, connotations, etymologies,

meanings, semantic relations and/or the roots, affixes, inflections, derivations, parts of speech, lexical categories, or morphological structures.

Instructions:

Quote and cite from at least six sources. One source must be the textbook and three must be the APUS Online Library database. Don't forget the works cited.

The essay must be between 750-1000 words.

The essay must be in proper MLA formatting.

Your document will automatically be submitted to Turnitin.com upon submission. If you find the unoriginal content is too high, which means anything over 20% unoriginal, please revise the paper based on a review of the Turnitin.com report and resubmit it.

The Written Assignment rubric is found attached to the paper's directions inside the course.

Final Papers are due by the final Sunday of Week 8.

Grading Scale

Please see the [student handbook](#) to reference the University's [grading scale](#).

Grading

Based on a percentage system, your final grade will be calculated as follows:

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>% of course grade</i>
Eight (8) Forums	40%
Three (3) Written Assignments	30%
One (1) Final Paper	30%
Total	100%

Individual assignments, including Forums, will be graded according to rubrics. Please see the individual assignments for points possible and rubrics. Remember that all written work must be submitted in MS Word or in rich text format.

About Sources

When using sources for your written assignments please do not use Wikipedia or other such sites (see this disclaimer elsewhere in the syllabus). Use only articles found through searches using the ProQuest and EBSCO databases in the APUS Online Library, or other specialized online databases available through the library, or via information found in your textbook. Sites from the open Internet are discouraged, particularly those with a .com suffix. If you must use an open Internet source, aim for .edu or .gov sites. Ask your instructor if you have questions or concerns about the quality of a website.

MLA Format

All Written Assignments, including the Final Paper, should be submitted in MLA format, which includes in-text parenthetical documentation and a Works Cited page. Remember that only those works that are cited in your text can be included on the Works Cited page. Please note that all Written Assignments must be double spaced with paragraphs indented.

[Table of Contents](#)

8-Week Course Outline

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference the University's [grading scale](#).
[Table of Contents](#)

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Learning Objectives</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1	An Introduction to Linguistics and Language Studies, and Class Introduction	CO-1 CO-2 CO-3 CO-4 CO-5	Student Handbook: Academic Dishonesty & Plagiarism http://www.apus.edu/student-handbook/writing-standards/index.htm#Academic Dishonesty Text: Chapter 8	<i>For complete details of weekly assignments, see the weekly Course Lessons.</i> Forums: Week 1 Forum

2	An Introduction to Linguistics	CO-1 CO-2 CO-3 CO-4 CO-5	Text: Chapter 1	Week 2 Forum Assignment #1 due Sunday Week 2
3	Morphology, Syntax, and Semantics	CO-1 CO-2 CO-3 CO-4 CO-5	Text: Chapter 4	Week 3 Forum
4	Morphology, Syntax, and Semantics	CO-1 CO-2 CO-3 CO-4 CO-5	Text: Chapter 5	Week 4 Forum Assignment #2 due Sunday Week 4
5	Both Spoken and Written!	CO-1 CO-2 CO-3 CO-4 CO-5	Text: Chapter 2	Week 5 Forum
6	Both Spoken and Written!	CO-1 CO-2 CO-3 CO-4 CO-5	Text: Chapter 3	Week 6 Forum Assignment #3 due Sunday Week 6
7	Language, Biology, and Learning!	CO-1 CO-2 CO-3 CO-4 CO-5	Text: Chapter 6	Week 7 Forum
8	Language, Biology, and Learning!	CO-1 CO-2 CO-3 CO-4 CO-5	Text: Chapter 7	Week 8 Forum Final Paper due Sunday Week 8

Policies

Please see the Course Guidelines & Resources page in MyClassroom for explanations about current APUS Policies that concern this course.

Writing Expectations

In this course students are expected to write at a college level, and thus it is understood that you will write in complete, grammatical sentences and orderly paragraphs, without using slang, jargon, or texting conventions that abbreviate or misspell (u for you, i instead of I, thru instead of through, and so forth.) Please note further that college-level writing involves learning to do college-level research. Open Internet sources like Wikipedia are not appropriate for college-level research. You must use the university's online library for research, and you are expected to learn to navigate the library and become familiar with the databases that it contains. You can also find helpful tutorials, style references, and links to tutoring within the library.

In this course, you must avoid the use of I and other first-person pronouns in your writing.

Citation and Reference Style

Students will follow the guidelines of the Modern Language Association (MLA) when submitting written assignments, including the Final Paper.

Late Assignments

Please note this important policy about submitting work after the due date. Here are the elements of the late policy applied to all classes in the School of Arts and Humanities:

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment or a forum, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments.

Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

[Table of Contents](#)

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors’ publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.

- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- **Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. [Tutor.com](#) connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

[Table of Contents](#)

Turnitin.com

Turnitin is integrated such that your written assignments may be automatically submitted to an originality analysis software system through the Assignments tool.

[Table of Contents](#)

Plagiarism

Course forums will be run through Turnitin.com every week. Your instructor has the right to regrade assignments during the course if suspicion of plagiarism or any other misleading events present themselves.

Selected Bibliography

Your instructor will present additional supplemental readings and relevant Internet sites throughout the duration of the course.

[Table of Contents](#)