

# Ling 501 Fundamentals of Linguistics

San Diego State University

Schedule # 22187

Fall 2021

TuTh 2:00pm–3:15pm

Room HH-210

This course will serve as a broad introduction to linguistics, building a foundation for further study in the field. The first half of the course will be devoted to introducing the four basic layers of language: **morphology, phonetics, phonology, and syntax**. Next we will turn to **semantics** and **pragmatics**, investigating the ways the people use language to convey meanings. We will then take a broad look at **historical** and **areal linguistics** looking at some of the amazing ways that languages vary across space and time. Finally, with a basic picture of linguistic systems in mind, we will look at **discourse** (language use in texts in dialogs) and **sociolinguistics** (language in its social context). This class has no pre-requisites.

## Instructor

Prof. Rob Malouf

Website: [malouf.sdsu.edu](http://malouf.sdsu.edu)

Email: [rmalouf@sdsu.edu](mailto:rmalouf@sdsu.edu)

Office hours: Tue & Thu 1:00pm–2:00pm, or by appointment

Real office: SHW 244

Zoom office: [sdsu.zoom.us/j/88612436627](https://sdsu.zoom.us/j/88612436627)

Students are provided with an SDSU Gmail account, and this SDSU email address will be used for all communications. University Senate policy notes that students are responsible for checking their official university email once per day during the academic term. For more information, please see Student Official Email Address Use Policy here: [senate.sdsu.edu/policy-fil e/policies/facilities#collapsed20e126\\_12](https://senate.sdsu.edu/policy-fil e/policies/facilities#collapsed20e126_12)

## Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- describe and give examples of ways in which human languages are all alike and how they may differ

- use the basic terminology of linguistics to describe language phenomena
- apply the tools of linguistic analysis to the sounds, words, and sentences of a language
- explain the ways in which languages change over time
- describe differing uses of language in its social context

## Course Materials

The required textbook for this course is:

Carol Genetti, ed. 2018. *How Languages Work: An Introduction to Language and Linguistics*. 2nd edition. Cambridge University Press. [hlw.id.ucsb.edu](http://hlw.id.ucsb.edu)

Make sure you get the second edition! It is for sale or rent in the campus bookstore and on Amazon and all the other usual places. Updates and additional material can be downloaded from the publisher's website. All course information, additional readings, assignments, slides, etc. will be available on Canvas.

## Schedule

Module	Topic	Readings
1	Introduction	Chapter 1
2	Phonetics	Chapter 2
3	Phonology	Chapter 3
4	Morphology	Chapter 4
5	Words	Chapter 5
6	Syntax	Chapter 6
7	Semantics	Chapter 7
8	Pragmatics	Chapter 8
9	Discourse	Chapter 9
10	Historical	Chapter 12
11	Language Contact	Chapter 13
12	Sociolinguistics	Chapter 11

## Course Design

Course grades will be based on weekly quizzes and homeworks, two take-home mid-term exams, and a comprehensive final exam:

- Quizzes (20%)
- Homeworks (20%)
- Midterm 1 (20%)
- Midterm 2 (20%)
- Final exam (20%)

Tentative dates for the midterms are October 7 and November 18, and the final will be December 14.

## **Grading Policies**

Working in groups on homework assignments is encouraged. However, please turn in your own individual write-up. Homework should be submitted via Canvas as a PDF file (preferred) or Word document. Late homeworks will be accepted with a grade penalty of one point. Quizzes and exams will be open-book, but are not group work. Please, no collaboration on exams!

## **University Policies**

Effective Fall 2021, students who register for face-to-face classes are expected to attend as indicated in the course schedule. Faculty teaching face-to-face courses will not be required to create a new, alternative on-line class as an accommodation for any student.

Students with medical conditions that would present a COVID-related risk in a face-to-face instructional setting should contact the Student Ability Success Center ([sdsu.edu/sasc](https://sdsu.edu/sasc)) to begin the process of getting support. Students who do not adhere to the Covid19 Student Policies ([csrr.sdsu.edu](https://csrr.sdsu.edu)) or the directives of their faculty will be directed to leave the classroom and will be referred to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Do not come to campus if you do not feel well. Remain home and monitor your symptoms and seek medical attention as needed.

### **Campus vaccination policy**

On July 27, 2021, the California State University (CSU) system announced that students, faculty, and staff, including auxiliary employees will need to be immunized against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, with a vaccine record on file in order to access campus this fall.

As outlined by the CSU, this requirement is not contingent on the full U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval, and therefore removes some of the earlier uncertainty regarding the policy's effective date.

SDSU will continue to operate in accordance with all federal, state, and county public health guidelines, and in compliance with CSU policies. The university will continue to prioritize the safety of students, faculty, staff, and community, while seeking to fulfill its educational mission. Visit the university's COVID-19 website ([sacd.sdsu.edu/student-health-services/covid-19](https://sacd.sdsu.edu/student-health-services/covid-19)) frequently, as the site is updated with current information.

### **Campus facial covering policy**

SDSU's full facial covering policy is available online ([sacd.sdsu.edu/student-health-services/covid-19/general-prevention#facial-covering-policy](https://sacd.sdsu.edu/student-health-services/covid-19/general-prevention#facial-covering-policy)) and may be updated again in the fall. Please refer to this URL for any fall 2021 updates, as the site will be kept current.

### **Medical-related absences**

Students are instructed to contact their professor/instructor/coach in the event they need to miss class, etc. due to an illness, injury or emergency. All decisions about the impact of an absence, as well as any arrangements for making up work, rest with the instructors. Student Health Services (SHS) does not provide medical excuses for short-term absences due to illness or injury. When a medical-related absence persists beyond five days, SHS will work with students to provide appropriate documentation. When a student is hospitalized or has a serious, ongoing illness or injury, SHS will, at the student's request and with the student's consent, communicate with the student's instructors via the Vice President for Student Affairs and may communicate with the student's Assistant Dean and/or the Student Ability Success Center.

### **Resources for students**

Need help finding an advisor, tutor, counselor, or require emergency economic assistance? The SDSU Student Success Help Desk ([studentsuccess.sdsu.edu](https://studentsuccess.sdsu.edu)) is here for you. Student assistants are available during the academic term via Zoom Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM to help you find the office or service that can best assist with your particular questions or concerns.

A complete list of all academic support services—including the Writing Center and Math Learning Center—is available on the Student Affairs' Academic Success website ([go.sdsu.edu/student\\_affairs/academic\\_success.aspx](https://go.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/academic_success.aspx)). Counseling and Psychological Services

(619-594-5220, [sdsu.edu/cps](https://sdsu.edu/cps)) offers a range of psychological services for students. Emergency support is available after hours at the same phone number. The San Diego Access and Crisis Line can also be accessed 24 hours/day (1-888-724-7240).

### **Academic honesty**

The University adheres to a strict policy prohibiting cheating and plagiarism. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- copying, in part or in whole, from another's test or other examination;
- obtaining copies of a test, an examination, or other course material without the permission of the instructor;
- collaborating with another or others in work to be presented without the permission of the instructor;
- falsifying records, laboratory work, or other course data;
- submitting work previously presented in another course, if contrary to the rules of the course;
- altering or interfering with grading procedures;
- assisting another student in any of the above;
- using sources verbatim or paraphrasing without giving proper attribution (this can include phrases, sentences, paragraphs and/or pages of work);
- copying and pasting work from an online or offline source directly and calling it your own;
- using information you find from an online or offline source without giving the author credit;
- replacing words or phrases from another source and inserting your own words or phrases.

Unauthorized recording or dissemination of virtual course instruction or materials by students, especially with the intent to disrupt normal university operations or facilitate academic dishonesty, is a violation of the Student Conduct Code. This includes posting of exam problems or questions to on-line platforms. Violators may be subject to discipline.

The California State University system requires instructors to report all instances of academic misconduct to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities. Academic dishonesty will result in disciplinary review by the University and may lead to probation, suspension, or expulsion. Instructors may also, at their discretion, penalize student grades on any assignment or assessment discovered to have been produced in an academically dishonest manner.

## **Classroom conduct standards**

SDSU students are expected to abide by the terms of the Student Conduct Code in classrooms and other instructional settings. Prohibited conduct includes:

- Willful, material and substantial disruption or obstruction of a University-related activity, or any on-campus activity.
- Participating in an activity that substantially and materially disrupts the normal operations of the University or infringes on the rights of members of the University community.
- Unauthorized recording, dissemination, or publication (including on websites or social media) of lectures or other course materials. This includes posting of exam problems or questions to on-line platforms.
- Conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person within or related to the University community, including physical abuse, threats, intimidation, or harassment; or sexual misconduct.

Violation of these standards will result in referral to appropriate campus authorities.

## **Accommodations**

SDSU via the Student Ability Success Center (SASC) provides accommodations for students with documented disabilities or medical conditions covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In keeping with current public health guidance, I cannot provide arrangements to students without an ADA-qualified disability or medical condition.

If you are a student with a disability and are in need of accommodations for this class, please contact the Student Ability Success Center at [sascinfo@sdsu.edu](mailto:sascinfo@sdsu.edu) (or go to [sasc.sdsu.edu](http://sasc.sdsu.edu)) as soon as possible. Please know accommodations are not retroactive, and I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Student Ability Success Center. SASC registration and accommodation approvals may take up to 10–14 business days, so please plan accordingly.

## **Student privacy and intellectual property**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) mandates the protection of student information, including contact information, grades, and graded assignments. I will use Canvas to communicate with you, and I will not post grades or leave graded assignments in public places. Students will be notified at the time of an assignment if copies of student work will be retained

beyond the end of the semester or used as examples for future students or the wider public. Students maintain intellectual property rights to work products they create as part of this course unless they are formally notified otherwise.

### **Religious observances**

According to the University Policy File, students should notify the instructors of affected courses of planned absences for religious observances by the end of the second week of classes.

### **Sexual violence / Title IX mandated reporting**

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I am a mandated reporter in my role as an SDSU employee. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep the information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share information regarding sexual violence on SDSU's campus with the Title IX coordinator, Gail Mendez (619-594-6464). She (or her designee) will contact you to let you know about accommodations and support services at SDSU and possibilities for holding accountable the person who harmed you. Know that you will not be forced to share information you do not wish to disclose and your level of involvement will be your choice. If you do not want the Title IX Officer notified, instead of disclosing this information to your instructor, you can speak confidentially with the following people on campus and in the community. They can connect you with support services and discuss options for pursuing a University or criminal investigation. Sexual Violence Victim Advocate 619-594-0210 or Counseling and Psychological Services 619-594-5220, [psycserv@sdsu.edu](mailto:psycserv@sdsu.edu). For more information regarding your university rights and options as a survivor of sexual misconduct or sexual violence, please visit [titleix.sdsu.edu](http://titleix.sdsu.edu) or [sdsutalks.sdsu.edu](http://sdsutalks.sdsu.edu).

### **SDSU Economic Crisis Response Team**

If you or a friend are experiencing food or housing insecurity, or any unforeseen financial crisis, visit [sdsu.edu/ecrt](http://sdsu.edu/ecrt) for more information or to submit a request for assistance.

SDSU's Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT) aims to bridge the gap in resources for students experiencing immediate food, housing, or unforeseen financial crises that impact student success. Using a holistic approach to well-being, ECRT supports students through crisis by leveraging a campus-wide collaboration that utilizes on- and off-campus partnerships and provides direct referrals based on each student's unique circumstances. ECRT empowers students to identify and access long-term, sustainable solutions in an effort to successfully graduate from

SDSU. Within 24 to 72 hours of submitting a referral, students are contacted by a member of ECRT and are quickly connected to the appropriate resources and services.

For students who need assistance accessing technology for their classes, visit our ECRT website ([sdsu.edu/ecrt](https://sdsu.edu/ecrt)) to be connected with the SDSU library's technology checkout program. The technology checkout program is available to both SDSU and Imperial Valley students.