

# North Central

## Michigan College

NCMC MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS FOR YEARS: 2001+

DIVISION/AREA: Linguistics

DEPARTMENT: English

AREA DEAN: Dr. Tim Dykstra

ORIGINATOR: Heather Rudolph

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION: 3

Lecture: 3

Lab: 0

COURSE NUMBER: 245

CREDIT HOURS: 3

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Linguistics

TRANSFERABLE YES:

NO:

TO:

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE(S)/ADVISORY:

COURSE OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES: Upon successful completion of English 245, students will be able to:

- Explain the common elements of language
- Formulate thematic connections with other fields such as psychology, anthropology, and philosophy
- Decipher how sounds are articulated and organized in a language
- Describe what is grammatical in a particular language using rules that detail underlying structure and transformational process
- Examine how the human brain processes the meaning of a word and constructs sentences from that meaning
- Recognize how different contexts and speech acts contribute to our shared assumptions and expectations of language
- Implement techniques to aid children and adults in language development, whether it is a first or second language

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Linguistics is the scientific study of language; it focuses on the descriptive rather than prescriptive approach to language. In this course, students will explore what language is and how it is represented in the mind. They will consider the following questions: How did languages originate? Is language unique to humans? Do we think differently depending on the language we speak? What role do parents and teachers play in language acquisition? Disciplines that will be covered include phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, language acquisition, and pragmatics.

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES OR OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

In the process of examining the origins and structures of language, students will learn to think critically and analytically, write and speak effectively, and independently acquire knowledge. Course activities will incorporate writing, speaking, collaborative and independent learning, and independent research.

COURSE TITLE AND NUMBER: ENG 245 - Introduction to Linguistics

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture, collaborative work, whole-class discussion, in-class and take-home writing, videos, and computer-mediated and online support.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Essays, in-class exams, quizzes, homework, classroom observation, outside research.

REQUIRED TEXTS: (Representative List)

*The Study of Language* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) by George Yule

Optional supplementary materials:

A writer's handbook

Reasonable accommodations may be provided for students with documented physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, and/or psychiatric disabilities. Please contact the Education Opportunity Program (EOP) at (231) 348-6687 to arrange services for this course.

APPROXIMATE TIME ALLOWANCE AND SEQUENCE OF INSTRUCTION (Course .Outline):

- Week One: Introduction to course. The Origins of Language.
- Week Two: Development of Writing, Properties of Language.
- Week Three: Properties of Language, Animals and Human Language
- Week Four: Sign Language, Phonetics
- Week Five: Phonology
- Week Six: Word-formation processes, Morphology
- Week Seven: Grammar, Syntax
- Week Eight: Midterm
- Week Nine: Semantics
- Week Ten: Pragmatics
- Week Eleven: Discourse Analysis
- Week Twelve: Language and the Brain
- Week Thirteen: First Language Acquisition
- Week Fourteen: Second Language Acquisition
- Week Fifteen: Language Varieties; Language, Society, and Culture
- Week Sixteen: Final