



LING 2100: Intro to Linguistics
Summer 2026

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Humanities area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, and philosophical works?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Competence

Instructor

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Course Description and Objectives

Linguistics is the scientific study of human language, its nature, its origins and its uses.

This course, which fulfills an Institute-wide humanities requirement, will give students an overview of the field of modern linguistics and basic skills in linguistic analysis. Through lectures, readings, and hands-on exercises, students will be able to:

- Describe key, motivating facts in the main subfields of theoretical linguistics: phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics/pragmatics, sociolinguistics, language typology and acquisition.
- Appreciate linguistic diversity, analyze cross-linguistic data, and reflect meta-linguistically on one's own language(s).
- Communicate clearly on technical topics: use precise vocabulary to make implicit knowledge of language explicit; state claims clearly with examples and supporting evidence; contextualize ideas within a bigger picture.
- Combine and appreciate the value of both 'scientific' and 'humanistic' perspectives (on language and ideally in general).
- Contribute to and benefit from a vibrant socio-intellectual community. Recognize that many questions remain open; feel empowered and welcome as potential junior researchers.

Grading

A: 90-100; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: below 59

(Note: final grades will be calculated based on this grading scheme at the end of the semester)

- [Discussions 10%](#)
- [Quizzes 15%](#)
- [Homework Assignments 25%](#)
- [Tests 30%](#)
- [Video project 5% and commenting on others' video projects 2.5%](#)
- [Group-based presentation 5% + evaluations on others' presentation 2.5%](#)
- [End-of-semester reflection \(5%\)](#)

Policies and Links

- [Georgia Tech Honor Code](#)
 - Cheating, plagiarism, and all forms of academic dishonesty are expressly forbidden in this class, and by the university's Honor Code
 - The first instance of cheating on quizzes, tests, or homework assignments will lead to an automatic zero for the assignment; the second cheating will immediately earn you a failing grade for the entire course. I will also pursue [further disciplinary actions](#) according to Georgia Tech's policies and procedures.
- [Georgia Tech's student-faculty expectations](#)
 - We all have a right to be treated with respect and professionalism, and a responsibility to treat others the way we want to be treated.
- [Resources and for student success](#), and [resources for student mental health](#)

- Don't struggle alone with school; there are resources to help you!
- [Office of Disability Services](#)
 - Students with disabilities are very welcome in this class. Please contact ODS to make the class more accessible for you.
- [Students' Temporary Assistance and Resources](#)
 - STAR (Students' Temporary Assistance and Resources) is a network of programs providing students with everything they need to thrive and flourish during their time at Georgia Tech
- More student resources can be found at <https://gatech.instructure.com/courses/245818>
- More School of Modern Languages resources can be found at <https://gatech.instructure.com/courses/491426>

