COURSE SYLLABUS FORMAT  
SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of English  
Course No. TL648  
Title of Course: Foundation of Linguistics

I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course

A foundation course which uses Chomsky’s generative paradigm to provide students with the skills needed to conduct basic linguistic analysis. Primary focus will be linguistic analysis, particularly in phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. An on-campus course, which is also offered as a multimedia online course. Computer literacy and email access required. 3 credit hours.

II. Prerequisite(s): None

III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course

• To acquire the skills needed to analyze the underlying structures of language.  
• To acquire the basic terminology of linguistics to describe language phenomena.  
• To learn how to conduct a data-based field project and to choose an appropriate methodology for the topic.  
• To address methodological concerns and relationships between linguistics and related disciplines such as TESOL, ESL, literature, or composition.

IV. Expectations of Students

• Participation, discussion, & contribution: Students are expected to finish the weekly reading assignments and actively participate discussions, either in-class or by online forum. In addition, hands-on exercises will be provided in a workshop format to enable students to grasp the basic tenets of phonetics, phonology, morphology, and syntax @ 100 pts.  
• Three unit tests @ 30 pts. each  
• Mid-term and final examination: For the mid-term students are expected to satisfactorily complete an applications’ test on phonetic transcription, syntactic and morphological analysis, along with pertinent linguistic vocabulary terms; material for the final exam will be in essay form, focusing on semantics, pragmatics, language change, and language variation @ 100 each  
• Participation in four online asynchronous forum assignments based on research articles which promote an understanding of the nature of language @ 50 pts. each  
• Linguistics data-based field project @ 100 pts.
V.  Course Content or Outline

Introduction to the field of linguistics, an overview  
Morphology  
Phonetics, Phonemics, and Phonology  
Language Change  
Syntax  
Semantics as Part of Grammar  
Pragmatics  
Language Variation  

VI.  Textbooks


VI.  Basis for Student Evaluation

Three unit tests @ 30 each  
Mid-term examination  
Four online forum assignments @ 50 each  
Data-Based Field Project  
Participation  
Final examination  
Total  

*Revised: 2.6.2002*