

## **HUL 242: Fundamentals of Language Science**

[No. of lectures: 30, No of tutorials=12]

Venue: LH 510

### **Course Description**

This course introduces the basic foundations of linguistic analysis for non-specialists. We take a modular approach to our understanding of language, beginning with the study of sounds and sound systems to morphology, syntax and semantics. As this is an introductory course, it will be broad in its scope, nevertheless, we will focus on specific language data sets (mainly from English and Hindi) and learn how to describe and analyze their linguistic properties. The course will consist of both lectures and tutorials; during tutorials, students will be expected to work on relatively unknown languages to extend and apply the knowledge they have learnt during the lectures.

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- analyze linguistic data on the basis of its phonological, morphological and syntactic structure
- represent linguistic information using glosses and syntactic trees
- generalize their knowledge of linguistic analysis to previously unseen language data
- understand linguistic meaning as it is expressed at the level of phonology, morphology, syntax (primarily) and also at the level of discourse and pragmatics
- have a working knowledge of the relationship between language and the mind as well as language in society

## Course Plan

S.N	Date	Topic
1	4/1	Intro: What is linguistics? Perspectives on language through the years. Course Info
2	7/1	Phonetics -I (Consonants)
3	11/1	Phonetics -II (Vowels)
4	14/1	HOLIDAY: Makar Sankranti
5	18/1	Phonology: sound systems in language, allophones, minimal pairs
6	21/1	Phonology: II
7	25/1	Morphology:I
8	28/1	Morphology:II
9	1/2	The lexicon:I (Intro to wordnet)
10	4/2	Quiz
11	8/2	The lexicon:II
12	11/2	MINOR 1
13	15/2	The lexicon, Categories of words, parts of speech
14	18/2	Constituent structure, Types of phrases,
15	22/2	Constituent Structure/Verbs
16	25/2	Drawing trees: CFGs
17	29/2	SEM BREAK
18	3/3	SEM BREAK
19	7/3	Projections and X-bar theory

20	11/3	Projections and X-bar theory
21	14/3	Thematic roles
22	17/3	Treebanks
23	1/3	MINOR II
24	24/3	Holi-Holiday
25	28/3	NO CLASS (will work as Friday)
26	31/3	--class cancelled--
27	4/4	Dependency Representation
28	7/4	Tree Adjoining Grammar
29	11/4	Tree Adjoining Grammar -2
30	14/4	Holiday
31	18/4	Language and Society -I
32	21/4	Language and Society -II (Guest lec by Dripta Piplai)
33	25/4	Language Acquisition
34	28/4	Language Acquisition (Guest lec by Paroma Sanyal)
35	2/5	Summing up: Revision
	9/5	MAJOR

## References

Rachael Anne-Knight. Phonetics: A coursebook. Cambridge University Press (2012)

Andrew Carnie. Syntax: A generative introduction. Blackwell (2002)

Victoria Fromkin, Robert Rodman, Nina Hyams. An Introduction to language. Wadsworth (2011)