



697 Linguistic Theories

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2026
ENG 01W 84636

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Salvatore Attardo

Office Location: THL 306

Office Hours: M-TH 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm + 1 hour weekly (schedule via email)

Students schedule through this link only:

<https://calendar.app.google/c24f6NeoM9YUWddz8>

Office Phone: 903-886-5260

Office Fax: 903-886-5980

University Email Address: Salvatore.Attardo@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: **email**

Communication Response Time: within 24 hrs (1 working day; longer if feedback to writing is requested)

Zoom Meeting ID: 645 861 9518

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required Attardo, S. Theories of Linguistics: An Introduction to Theoretical and Applied Linguistics. Available in the LMS.

Software Required: access to internet; **Zoom. <https://tamuc.zoom.us/j/6458619518>**

Optional Texts and/or Materials: none

Course Description

This course is a required introduction to linguistics for PhD students. Other students may also take the class. It presents an introduction to linguistics with a focus on the development of the discipline and sub-disciplines.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. The student will be an active and engaged participant in discussions by analyzing, constructing and evaluating information presented within the lectures, external readings and class activities.
2. The student will understand and be able to discuss, evaluate, and critique the history and development of linguistics and applied linguistics, differentiate among the various approaches, and relate linguistic theories to other disciplines, such as psychology, philosophy, sociology, etc.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using the learning management system, using word processing and presentation software.

Instructional Methods

You must have read the relevant chapter in the book by the day of the lecture.

A live lecture will be held on Wednesday 4:30-7:10 pm CST. You MUST do one of the following:

- a) attend remotely: log in via Zoom (Meeting ID: <https://tamuc.zoom.us/j/6458619518>); or
- b) watch the video of the lecture on the LMS (usually uploaded during the night).

You must post 2 contributions to the week's Q&A. You may post questions about the lecture/contents of the book or answer other students questions. If you attend the live lecture (f2f or remotely) and say something meaningful you are exempted from having to post a question (but you must still respond to one). Obviously you may post more than 2 Q&A, if you want. The Q&A period opens Monday at 0:01 AM CST and closes Thursday at 11:30 pm CST. **You can post in the Q&A after that time, but it will not count for credit.**

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

- Students will be responsible for **familiarizing themselves with the syllabus and all course instructions** found in the online course platform
- Students will be responsible for reading all online materials
- Students will be responsible for completing and submitting all assignments online
- Students will be responsible for contacting the professor via the Virtual office or email regarding questions on assignments PRIOR to the due date
- **You must log on several times every week or attend f2f and log on. You cannot do well in the class if you do not log on multiple times and/or attend.**

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 59% or Below

Assessments

Midterm Viva voce (oral) exam	15% = 15 points
Final Viva voce (oral) Comprehensive Exam	60% = 50 points
Q&A/Intro (15x1)	15% = 15 points
Project:	10% = 10 points
Participation:	10% = 10 points

The class participation score includes posting an introduction, reading other students posts, frequency of posting, attending the lectures (F2F or Online), and contacts with the instructor.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

You can contact the instructor via email anytime. I will respond within one working day, but usually much faster. If you call the phone number listed in the syllabus the department secretary sends me an email, so it's faster to email me. You can always ask me for a conference (Zoom or Skype). If you do so, give me some options when you are available.

I interact with more than 250 students every year. ***I do not remember which class you are in. Please put in the body of your email which course you are asking about.*** If you email me from the LMS it does so automatically.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Attendance is mandatory in the f2f section (this is a graduate course!). Late Work may be arranged PRIOR to the deadline. Late work AFTER the deadline is not allowed, except for extenuating circumstances. Missed Exams and Quizzes and Extra Credit cannot be made up, unless prior arrangements have been made, except for extenuating circumstances

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

[http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/
studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url: [http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/
rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf)

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Use of AI in the course

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course. Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism). Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed. In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

According to the above statement, use of AI tools is strictly forbidden in this class, except as part of the project assignment (see description in the LMS).

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Calendar

Week	Days	Materials to read		Q&A (mon-fri)
0	Aug 20 & Aug 21	Prefaces		Introductions
1	August 24 — Aug 28	Ch 1: Linguistics as a science		1
2	Aug 31 — Sep 4	Ch 2: The precursors and historical linguistics		2
3	Sept 7 — Sept 11	Ch 3: Saussure and the Birth of Modern Linguistics		3
4	Sept 14 - Sept 18	Ch 4: European Structuralism		4
5	Sept 21 — Sept 25	Ch 5: American Structuralism		5
6	Sept 28 — Oct 2	Ch 6: Chomsky		6
7	Oct 5 - Oct 9	Ch 7: The rise and fall of TG		7
8	Oct 12 — Oct 16	Ch 8: Functionalism	Midterm (viva voce)	8
9	Oct 19 — Oct 23	Ch 9: Sociolinguistics		9
10	Oct 26 — Oct 30	Ch 10: Pragmatics		10
11	Nov 2 — Nov 6	Ch 11: Sociopragmatics		11
12	Nov 9 — Nov 13	Ch 12: Cognitive linguistics		12
13	Nov 16 — Nov 20	Ch 13: Corpus Linguistics and the Quantitative Turn		13
14	Nov 23 - Nov 27	Thanksgiving week (no class)	Projects due	
15	Nov 30 - Dec 4	Ch 14: Vygotsky and Sociocultural Theory		14
	Dec 7 — Dec 9		Final exams (viva voce)	

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.