COURSE SYLLABUS

Fall 2022

MORPHOLOGY
01:615:411

Classes begin **September 6** and end on **December 15**.

Academic Calendar Directory: https://academicaffairs.rutgers.edu/academic-calendar-directory

You are advised to retain a copy of this syllabus in your personal files for use when applying for future degrees, certifications, or transfer of credit.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Troy Messick

Email: troy.messick@rutgers.edu

Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 1PM-2PM (on Zoom or in-person)

Communication:

Throughout the semester, I will communicate with you via either **Canvas Announcements** or your **Rutgers email account**. Please review the following link for Accessing Rutgers Email:

https://canvas.rutgers.edu/documentation/general/accessing-rutgers-email/

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course Description:

Prerequisites: 01:615:201 and 01:615: 305 (Syntax) *or* 01:615:315 (Phonology

Course Modality:

This course is delivered **in person.**

Days and time: Monday and Wednesday 3:50PM-5:10PM

Location: Scott Hall Room 221

To access the companion Canvas course site, please visit Rutgers Canvas at https://canvas.rutgers.edu/ and log in using your NetID. For more information about course access and support contact Canvas Help at https://canvas.rutgers.edu/canvas-help/, via email at help@canvas.rutgers.edu, or call 877-361-1134.

Purpose of the Course:

By the end of this course, students are expected to:
- Understand the basic tools of morphological analysis.
- Be able to apply those tools to novel sets of data, in both familiar languages (English, Spanish) and unfamiliar languages (e.g. native American ones).
- Appreciate how morphology relates to other branches of linguistics (syntax, phonology).
- Develop skills in analysis and problem solving, including dealing with unfamiliar material and finding robust generalizations even in the face of some irregularities.

MATERIALS

Required Texts: No required text. All readings will be posted to the canvas site.

Technology Requirements:

This course may require that you access online resources in the University's Canvas site. Please review the following link for Canvas Student Resources for assistance on getting started in Canvas:

https://canvas.rutgers.edu/students/

Additional Technical Requirements:

Review Rutgers' Tech Guides at: https://it.rutgers.edu/technology-guide/

GRADING

Final Course Grade:

Grades in this course are weighted according to the table below.

Activity or assignment	
Reading Quizzes	10%
In-class Worksheets	10%
Homework Assignments	30%
Midterm	20%
Final	20%
Participation	10%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

Grade	Range
A	100 - 95
A-	90 - 94
B+	87 - 89
B	84 -86
B-	80 -83
C+	77 - 79
C	74 - 76
C-	70 - 73
D+	67 -69
D	65 - 66
D-	61 - 64
F	60 and Below

Quizzes

- 7 quizzes will be given throughout the semester, and your lowest two quizzes will be dropped.
- Quizzes will cover material in the readings and lectures.
- They will be administered on canvas and will be a mix of short answer, multiple choice, and True/False.

In-Class Worksheets

- You will get 5 worksheets of practice problem sets throughout the semester.
- They will be handed out periodically in class and done in groups during class time. They will also be available on canvas.
- The worksheets will be collected at the end of class and graded solely on **completion**, i.e., if you do the assignment and hand it in, you will receive full credit.
- These worksheets can be seen as practice for the homework assignments

Homework Assignments

- You will be given 4 assignments during the course.
- Assignments will be released on canvas on Fridays and will be due one week from when they are released.
- Each assignment builds off the material covered in lecture and the readings, as well as the previous assignments. so, it is important to keep up.
- You may discuss the assignments with other students, but each student must independently turn in their own assignment. Please list students you worked with when you turn in the assignment.
- The purpose of the assignments is to get you to engage critically and independently with the material covered in the course.

Midterm and Final

- You will be given 2 take home exams during the course. One during week 8 and one during Final Exam Week.
- You may consult your notes for the exams.
- For both the midterm and final there will be a collaborative study guide available on canvas. Students can earn bonus exam points (up to 3) by contributing to the study guide.
- The purpose of the exams is to reinforce the main points discussed in the course and also assess your learning.

Extra Credit

- Some faculty and graduate students in the Department of Linguistics do experimental research on language. This research depends on the participation of undergraduate participants.
- You have the option of participating in Linguistics experiments during the semester. Each experiment usually takes between 20 and 45 minutes.
- Experiments are offered through the Linguistics department experiment management system (sona): http://rutgerslinguistics.sona-systems.com/ . Towards the beginning of the semester, your name and email will be added to the experiment system. You will be issued an anonymous id to participate in experiments through this system. Once Linguistics experiments are posted, you can sign up online. Note that this system is different from the psychology pool, and you should not use a psychology ID to log in to the system.
- Any student enrolled in a Linguistics undergraduate course is eligible to participate in Linguistics experiments, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, language status, or impair- ments, disorders, or disabilities (as long as his/her instructor provides the opportunity). You cannot be denied participation for any of these reasons.
- You have the right to not participate in experiments to earn extra credit. You may speak with me about possible research alternatives, such as reading a pre-approved scholarly article in linguistics and writing a 2-page paper summarizing it.

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Submission Policy:

Homework will be submitted via canvas assignment function. The preferred file type is PDF, however other file types will be accepted as well.

Late Work:

Late work may be accepted at the instructor's discretion. If you are unable to make a deadline, please contact me as soon as you can, and we can work out an arrangement.

Coursework Difficulties:

Please discuss any issues that you are having in completing the coursework on time with me. I am available to talk this over with you by appointment.

Incomplete Policy:

If you are unable to complete the coursework during the semester due to some catastrophic issue, you must contact me immediately to discuss your alternatives.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:

Our purpose in the classroom is to seek the truth; this work requires trust and honesty between teacher and student. If we are not honest about what we know and do not know, our learning will always be impaired. Because our teaching and learning depends on this honest communication, we expect all students to understand what plagiarism is and why it is unacceptable.

Any student considering plagiarism should recognize the consequences and consider alternatives. Students uncertain about what constitutes plagiarism may request help from faculty or from appropriate University services. For information on using sources in writing, see the Identifying and Avoiding Academic Dishonesty section of the Rutgers Academic Integrity web site:

http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/resources-for-students/

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Students are required to adhere to the University Student Code of Conduct delineated in the Rutgers Student Affairs website Student Conduct page:

http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu/student-conduct-processes/university-code-of-student-conduct/#1495568095620-2f5ce77d-17dd

ACCOMMODATIONS

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form (https://webapps.rutgers.edu/student-ods/forms/registration).

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Academic Services:

- For academic support visit Rutgers Academics Student Support at https://www.rutgers.edu/academics/student-support
- Any student can obtain tutoring and other help at the Learning Centers on each campus. Check the website at https://rlc.rutgers.edu/
- For coaching help with writing skills and assignments visit the Writing Coaching webpage at https://rlc.rutgers.edu/student-services/writing-coaching
- Many library resources are available online. Assistance is available through phone, email, and chat. For information, check the Rutgers Libraries website at https://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/

Rutgers Student Health Services:

Rutgers Student Health Services is dedicated to health for the whole student body, mind and spirit. It accomplishes this through a staff of qualified clinicians and support staff. Services are available at several locations throughout the New Brunswick-Piscataway area. For more information visit: http://health.rutgers.edu/

Veteran Services:

Rutgers is proud to support veterans. If you are a veteran of the armed forces, please visit the Office of Veteran and Military Programs and Services website for more information: https://veterans.rutgers.edu/

TOPICS SCHEDULE

Module 1 (Week 1-2)

Category	Description
Meeting	In person (Note: Week 1 is shortened)
Core Topic(s)	• Getting Started: What is morphology? • Brushing up on concepts from Syntax and Phonology • Basic terminology
Learning Objectives	At the end of this week you will be able to: • Define morpheme • Find morphemes within English and non-English words
Readings	• Baker and Bobaljik (2008) Chapter 1
Assignments Due	

Module 2 (Weeks 3-5)

Category	Description
Meeting	In person
Core Topic(s)	• Intro to Allomorph • Derivational Morphology
Learning Objectives	At the end of this week you will be able to: • Draw word structure trees for complex words • Determine the category and other features of a complex word based on the morphemes within it.
Reading	• Baker and Bobaljik (2008) Chapter 2
Assignments Due	• Homework 1 due end of week 3 • Homework 2 due end of week 5

Module 3 (Weeks 6-8)

Category	Description
Meeting	In person
Core Topic(s)	• Compounding • Argument structure
Learning Objectives	At the end of this week you will be able to:

Category	Description
	• Determine the head of the compound in English and other languages • Determine the argument structure of simple words. • Use and understand principles to derive argument structures of complex words
Reading	• Baker and Bobaljik (2008) Chapters 3 & 4
Assignments Due	• **Midterm due October 28th**

Module 4: (Weeks 9-10)

Category	Description
Meeting	In person
Core Topic(s)	• Morphophonology
Learning Objectives	• Determine whether an affix is cyclic or not • Understand how different morphemes affect different aspects of word level phonology
Reading	• Baker and Bobaljik (2008) Chapter 5
Assignments Due	• Homework 3 due end of week 10

Module 5: (Week 11-12)

Category	Description
Meeting	In person
Core Topic(s)	• Inflectional morphology
Learning Objectives	At the end of this week you will be able to: • Understand and use underspecification • Work with inflectional paradigms in English and other languages • Understand how agreement and morphology interact
Readings/Media	Baker and Bobaljik (2008) Chapter 6
Assignments Due	• Homework 4 due end of week 12

Module 6: (Week 12-15)

Category	Description
Meeting	In person (Note week 12 is shortened for Thanksgivinh)

Category	Description
Core Topic(s)	• Infixation • Reduplication • Mutation • Root and Pattern
Learning Objectives	• Use what we have learned so far to account for other types of morphological processes that on the surface seem difficult.
Readings	• Baker and Bobaljik (2008) Chapter 6
Assignments Due	**Final Exam due December 20**