

## LIN 3130 Section A Introduction to Historical Linguistics

Fall 2005

Course web site and blog: [www.languagechange.net](http://www.languagechange.net)

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Monday 14:30-16:00 SMD 428  
Thursday 16:00-17:30 MRT 221

### Course description.

Language change, comparative and internal reconstruction as methods of investigating earlier stages of language development. Neogrammarian, structuralist, generative approaches. Dialect geography, social factors in change, language contact, linguistic pre-history. Models of change, phonological, semantic, and syntactic change, areal linguistics.

### Learning objectives.

To understand and apply the principles of language change, to understand the role of borrowing and analogy, to understand, compare and evaluate models of language change, including possible causal factors.

**Required textbook.** Available at the AGORA bookstore at 145 Besserer St., or the university bookstore.

Campbell, Lyle (2004) *Historical Linguistics: An Introduction*, Second Edition, Cambridge, MA.: MIT Press.

**Supplementary readings:** Will be assigned as the course progresses. Course-pack may be required.

### Evaluation.

<b>Test 1</b>	Oct. 6	30%
<b>Test 2</b>	Nov. 10	30%
<b>Final examination*</b>	Date set by the University	<u>40%</u>
		100%

Exercises will neither be collected nor graded. Exercises will be discussed in class, and exam and test questions may relate to the exercises.

**Term paper option:** If you wish, you may write a term paper instead of test 2. If you wish to take this option, please see me about possible topics. A brief outline with references is due November 10 (the date of test 2) and the final paper is due at the final exam.

Policy concerning Academic Fraud (from the Undergraduate Studies Calendar 2003-2005 at [http://www.uottawa.ca/academic/info/regist/crs/home\\_5\\_ENG.htm](http://www.uottawa.ca/academic/info/regist/crs/home_5_ENG.htm))

Students who require accommodations or academic support because of a physical or learning disability, or any condition that affects their ability to learn, are invited to register with **ACCESS SERVICE**: In person: UCU 339; Telephone: 562-5976; TTY: 562-5214; E-mail [adapt@uottawa.ca](mailto:adapt@uottawa.ca); Web: [www.sass.uottawa.ca](http://www.sass.uottawa.ca).

\*Note that the final examination may be scheduled at any time during the examination period, December 7-22. Neither departments nor professors have any control whatsoever over the scheduling of final examinations. Students are reminded that they should not make any travel, work, or other commitments during the exam period.

Course schedule (preliminary, subject to change)

Date		Topic	Reading
<b>INTRODUCTION, SOUND CHANGE, BORROWING, AND ANALOGY</b>			
Sept	8	Introduction	
	12	Sound change	Ch. 1
	15	Sound change (continued)	Ch. 2
	19	Sound change (continued)	
	22	Borrowing	Ch. 3
	26	Borrowing (continued)	
	29	Analogy & Semantic change	Ch. 4 & 9
Oct	3	<i>Review</i>	
	6	<i>Test 1</i>	
	10	Happy Thanksgiving! (No class)	
<b>SYNTACTIC CHANGE, MODELS, EXPLANATION &amp; PREHISTORY</b>			
	13	Syntactic Change	Ch. 10
	17	Models of linguistic change	Ch. 7
	20	Explaining linguistic change	Ch. 11
	24	Areal linguistics and language contact	Ch. 12
	27	Distant genetic relationships	Ch. 13
	31	Philology: The role of written records	Ch. 14
Nov	3	Linguistic prehistory	Ch. 15
	7	<i>Review</i>	
	10	<i>Test 2</i>	
<b>COMPARATIVE AND INTERNAL RECONSTRUCTION</b>			
	14	Comparative Reconstruction	Ch. 5
	17	Comparative Reconstruction (continued)	
	21	Comparative Reconstruction (continued)	
	24	Linguistic Classification	Ch. 6
	28	Internal Reconstruction	Ch. 8
Dec	1	Internal Reconstruction (continued)	
	5	<i>Review</i>	
	TBA	<i>Final examination</i> (date to be announced)	