

The Wonder of Words

Linguistics 110

Section: D100

Term: 2009 Spring

Instructor:
INSTRUCTOR: TBA

OFFICE: 9208

E-Mail: TBA

PREREQUISITE: None

Discussion Topics:
DAY/BURNABY

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to linguistics through the medium of the English language. The vocabulary of English is studied and used to introduce linguistic principles and analyses. Topics to be explored will include the history of the English language, the history and structure of words, word relationships, and changes to words and word components. The English language has an enormous number of words - no matter what method you use to count. Many of the words in English (about 80%) are based on Latin and Greek roots. A great deal of the terminology of science, engineering, chemistry, physics, psychology, linguistics, communication, and indeed much of the vocabulary of higher education, is based on Latin and Greek roots worldwide. Mastering the knowledge of these roots will provide the students with a more powerful and useful vocabulary, especially terminology as in any field of Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, Social Sciences, and the Humanities, there are many new words and concepts to learn.

Students will be provided samples of assignments and exams for practicing purposes.

This course will appeal to a variety of students: those wishing to begin their study of linguistics, those interested in the origin and structure of words, and those wishing to improve their English vocabulary. Students of Linguistics, English literature, and English language instruction, and to arts and science students who need to enhance their formal and technical vocabularies will find it useful.

Grading: Based on 4 assignments (30%), a midterm (30%), and a final examination (40%).

Required Texts: Paul McFetridge. A Linguistic Introduction to the Structure and History of the English Lexicon. Custom Courseware

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (Tenth or Eleventh edition)

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

The Wonder of Words

Prerequisite/Corequisite: None.

Notes: Students should familiarize themselves with the Department's Standards on Class Management and Student Responsibilities .

All student requests for accommodations for their religious practices must be made in writing by the end of the first week of classes or no later than one week after a student adds a course.

Students requiring accommodations as a result of a disability must contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities (778-782-3112 or csdo@sfu.ca).

Nov 2008

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