

# ENG 104

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## ENG 104 – An Introduction to Linguistics – Fall 2008

**Text:** *Understanding Language: A Basic Course in Linguistics*, by Elizabeth Grace Winkler. 2007. Continuum Publishers. (Used copies are fine). Text is mandatory.

### The Internet:

1) Everyone must have a WKU email account that you check every couple of days. I will send out class announcements via email, as well as post them on Blackboard. I do not respond to commercial accounts like AOL, Yahoo, hotmail etc. Messages frequently bounce to these and other commercial addresses.

2) Some of the class materials and assignments will be posted on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to do the readings, take sufficient notes or make copies of the readings if necessary. Simply reading the material will not be enough to get a good grade in this class.

**Class Format:** Lectures, films, discussions. Students are required to participate in class discussions. As native speakers of a language, you have a great deal of experience with language that will be relevant to this class. Borderline grades will be determined by class participation.

Note: I do not only teach solely what is in the readings. The readings supplement the class. You are responsible for material from both the readings and lectures. If you are absent, get the notes from other students. I do not give out my teaching notes.

**Class Decorum:** Treat everyone with courtesy. Arrive on time. If you enter class late, do so quietly and sit in the back of the room.

**ABSOLUTELY NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES MAY BE TURNED ON DURING CLASS. THIS INCLUDES BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO: COMPUTERS MP3PLAYERS, CELL PHONES, BEEPERS, BLACKBERRIES  
NO EXCEPTIONS**

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is mandatory. You are permitted 7 absences. There are no excused absences; therefore, it is your responsibility to use wisely your absences. Each absence over 7 will earn a 2% reduction in the final course grade. The absence policy is set not as a punishment, but in recognition of the fact that if you are not in class, you are not learning. If you have a doctor's excuse, you will be allowed to turn in assigned work at the first class after the absence; however, the absence still counts as an absence. If you get up to answer a cell phone call, you will be marked absent.

**Late arrivals:** If you arrive after I have taken attendance, I will mark you late. 3 late arrivals constitute 1 absence. If you are more than 10 minutes later than when I take

attendance, you are welcome to stay but will be considered absent.

**Assignments:** All assignments are due on the date specified on the assignment by 4 p.m. Assignments are considered late if you are absent (except with doctor's excuse). You may email me an assignment the day it is due if you are ill or you may send it to me with a roommate. All late homework assignments will be penalized 10 points a day including weekend days. Do not email me your homework except in case of illness. You are responsible for printing your homework, not me.

**Evaluation:**

Homework: 25% Pop Quizzes 15% Tests (2): 20% each Final Exam: 20%

Grades will be given in percentages. Final grades will be based on the following scale:  
A = 90-100% B= 80-89% C = 70-79% D = 60-69% F = below 60%

**Academic theft:** Copying from other students or from other materials will not be tolerated. This includes material found on the Internet. Students will receive failing grades on any assignments with ANY plagiarized sections. If the behavior is repeated, a failing grade will be received in the course, and you may be reported to university judiciaries.

**Extra Credit:** None. If you are unwilling or unable to do the required work and get a good grade, I see no reason to give you a grade by passing out extra credit. Grades are EARNED by you, not GIVEN by me.

**Students with Disabilities:** In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services in Downing University Center, A-200. The phone number is 270 745 5004.

Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services. Course requirements will not be waived, but I will be happy to assist you in making the accommodations you need as documented by the OSDS.

**Military Policy:** If you are either reserve or active duty military personnel and are deployed during this course, bring me your orders, and I will make every effort to help you complete this class via Internet or snail mail