

LING S-110. Introduction to Linguistics (CRN: 31578)

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This course is intended as an introduction to the study of human language--its nature and its relationship to other aspects of human culture. Questions to be addressed include the following: How does language differ from other forms of communication? Can chimpanzees and parrots learn language? How different are languages around the world? Does language influence thought? How do children learn to talk? Emphasis will be placed on basic skills--the techniques that professional linguists use to analyze language data into sound structures (phonology) and sentence structures (syntax). The relationship of linguistics to other social and natural sciences, such as psychology, anthropology, and biology, will also be examined.