COURSE DETAIL

FROM LANGUAGE TO LINGUISTICS
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Utrecht University
Program(s) Utrecht University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Linguistics
UCEAP Course Number 101
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title FROM LANGUAGE TO LINGUISTICS
UCEAP Transcript Title LANG TO LING
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description
The goal of the course is to acquaint the participants with the central notions and principles of linguistics–a scientific study of human language that probes into the nature of language itself and seeks to answer the fundamental questions as to what language is and how it works. Students learn to use the formal tools of morphological and syntactic analyses and connect these to the position of language as a cognitive module. Under the view adopted, linguistics is a branch of cognitive psychology since it studies our competence (knowledge of natural language) which is, in turn, an aspect of our mind. The participants are acquainted with the leading ideas, central notions and fundamental principles of theoretical linguistics, concerned with the constructing of models of linguistic knowledge. The course particularly focuses on morphology and syntax as two sub-fields of theoretical linguistics. The course deals with the “nature-nurture” debate, searches for explanations of linguistic universals, but it also discusses the boundaries of natural language. It discusses how Universal Grammar operates and how natural language relates to other cognitive processes. A central role in the course is given to getting ourselves familiarized with the core structural principles of natural language. As the title of the course indicates, the starting point is the wonderment about the data from the participants' native language(s), but the goal is to analyze these data and compare them, in a systematic fashion, with data from other languages, both closely and distantly related to it.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
TW1V13001

Host Institution Course Title
FROM LANGUAGE TO LINGUISTICS

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
Humanities

Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Languages, Literature and Communication
Course Last Reviewed

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