

Linguistics 392 - Morphology

Meeting time/place: Tues/Thurs 3:30-5:00 p.m., CBA 4.326
Instructor: Dr. Crowhurst
Office: Calhoun 402, Tel.: 471-9027; 471-1701.
Email: *mcrowhurst@mail.utexas.edu* (Note: advising email should not be sent to this address, but to me at *megancrowhurst@gmail.com*)
Office hrs: Tues/Thurs 2:00-3:30 p.m.
Best way to reach me – email. In general, I am available if my office door is open. I am NOT available without an appointment if my office door is closed.

PREREQUISITE: Graduate standing, with some background in linguistics.

WHERE DOES THIS COURSE FIT IN YOUR PROGRAM: This course counts as a seminar (the main requirement is a paper; see below). For students majoring in syntax or documentary linguistics, this can count toward your major area. You *might* be able to count this seminar toward your minor, although we'd have to work out how.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The morpheme has a special status in linguistics as "the minimal unit of meaning" (so we learn and teach our students in introductory courses in linguistics). As such, it is a critical unit for any linguist to be able to identify. Morphological phenomena are often examined by students of syntax and phonology as they appear relevant to those areas of linguistics. However, morphology tends not to be viewed as a subdiscipline of linguistics in its own right. (How many linguists do we know who identify themselves primarily as morphologists?) This course is a study in morphology. We will consider - broadly - the importance of morphological phenomena for other areas of linguistics, including syntax and phonology. We will also look more narrowly at the ways in which morphological phenomena "fit together" to form systems that are in some ways independent of phonology and syntax. *Since all those who have enrolled in this class have a descriptive linguistics focus, I plan to organize much of the course's content around this interest.*

TEXTS & CLASS COMMUNICATIONS

- Throughout the semester, I will make material available to you on reserve in Hill Library, and/or electronically (Blackboard, email, online library).
- I will communicate with you often by email, and by posting class material on Blackboard. Once posted, you are responsible for information pertaining to this class.

REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION

- Term paper (a preliminary and a final version) - **60%**
- Regular attendance at meetings, thoughtful participation in class discussions, the thoughtful completion of tasks assigned in conjunction with class readings - **15%**
- Contributions (short "briefings" to the class) pertaining to morphological patterns in the language you're working on and closely related languages - **15%**
- Conference-style presentation of your work - **10%**