English 415, Introduction to Linguistics (Prerequisite English 319)
Dr. Charles W. MacQuarrie
Office: 318
Office Hours: T&Th 6-7 pm, M&W 2-4 pm
E-mail: cmacquarrie@avc.edu

Texts

Pinker, Steven. The Language Instinct: How the Mind Creates Language. New

Course Description:
This course is an introduction to the basic concepts, theories, and issues in the study of
languages. We will pay particular attention to the development of sound systems in
language, to principles of word formation, and to semantic and syntactic patterns. In this
course we will look at both synchronic and diachronic linguistics, and we will pay
particular attention to the relationship between language, language change, and culture.

Grading:
Midterm 25%, Presentation and quizzes 25%, Final 50%.

Project
Students will all be involved in group research projects this term. In groups of 4-5,
students will choose a language and then research the phonetics, phonology, morphology,
syntax, and semantics of the language. The research should account for the history of the
language and discuss developments that have occurred in the sound system, morphology,
etc... Students should also research the language group from which the language they are
researching is from, and should be able to talk and write about relationships between the
language they have chosen and other languages in that language family. Finally, they
should research the connection between the language family and other language families.

Presentations
Students will present their projects in class beginning the week of May 12. The time
limitation of a single thirty-minute session per group will require careful organization of
the presentation, practice of its delivery, and preparation of a clear, typescript handout
duplicated for the class. Each group should also prepare an annotated bibliography.

For next week please bring me a 3x5 card with your picture on it and the following:
Card 1. Your name in Roman alphabet and phonetic script. 2. Degree Objective/Department 3.
Previous linguistics work, courses 4. Modern/Ancient language familiarity. 5. Your e-
mail address.
Reading Schedule
Week One: (W 4/7/03)
Course Introduction
In-Class Diagnostic Essay.
Film: “The Journey of Man”

Week Two (4/15):
Trask chapter 1&2.
Pinker chapter 1.
Introduction to library resources.

Week Three (4/21):
Trask chapter 3&4.
Pinker chapter 2.

Week Four (4/28):
Trask chapter 5.
Pinker chapter 3.

Week Five (5/5):
Trask chapter 6.
Pinker chapter 4.

Midterm

Week Six (5/12):
Trask chapter 7&8.
Pinker chapter 5.

Week Seven (5/19):
Trask chapter 9&10.
Pinker chapter 6.

Week Eight (5/26):
Holiday – Memorial Day
Trask chapter 11&12.
Pinker chapter 7.

Week Nine (6/2)
Trask chapter 13.
Pinker chapter 8.

Week Ten (6/9)
Final examination
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 03 – 14</td>
<td>Academic Advising for Continuing Students (for Spring Quarter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 10 – 21</td>
<td>Registration for Continuing Students (for Spring Quarter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Fees Due (for Spring Quarter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>Orientation and Advising for Antelope Valley Students (for Spring)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>Late Registration Begins (for Spring Quarter) ($25 fee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>Orientation and Advising for All Students (for Spring Quarter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>HOLIDAY - Cesar Chavez Day – Campus Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 01</td>
<td>ALL FACULTY DUE ON CAMPUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 01</td>
<td>First Day of Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 05</td>
<td>Transfer Day Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 08</td>
<td>Last day to Add classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 08</td>
<td>Last day to change between audit and letter grading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 08</td>
<td>Last Day of Late Registration (for Spring Quarter) ($25 fee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>Last day to apply for June Commencement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Deadline to apply for refundable part of Student Services fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>Census Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>Last day to change between credit/no-credit and letter grading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from classes without a “W” being recorded; withdrawals from classes after this date and continuing through the next four-week period will be permitted only for serious and compelling reasons and require written approval by the dean or department chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Freshman Day Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 05 – 09</td>
<td>Registration for Continuing Students (for Summer Quarter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 05 – 16</td>
<td>Academic Advising for Continuing Students (for Fall Quarter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 07</td>
<td>Campus-wide Emergency Evacuation Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>Orientation and Advising for All Students (for Fall Quarter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12 – Aug 15</td>
<td>Registration for Continuing Students (for Fall Quarter)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Language Research groups

Niger-Kordofanan (Bantu)
1. ___________________, 2. ___________________, 3. ___________________, 4. ___________________, 5. ___________________

Nilo-Saharan (Nilosaharan)
1. ___________________, 2. ___________________, 3. ___________________, 4. ___________________, 5. ___________________

Khoisan (San)
1. ___________________, 2. ___________________, 3. ___________________, 4. ___________________, 5. ___________________

Afro-Asiatic (Berber)
1. ___________________, 2. ___________________, 3. ___________________, 4. ___________________, 5. ___________________

Indo-European (Rhaeto-Romanic and/or Romanian)
1. ___________________, 2. ___________________, 3. ___________________, 4. ___________________, 5. ___________________

Dravidian
1. ___________________, 2. ___________________, 3. ___________________, 4. ___________________, 5. ___________________

Uralic-Yuk (Lapp)
1. ___________________, 2. ___________________, 3. ___________________, 4. ___________________, 5. ___________________

Sino-Tibetan (Mongol)
1. ___________________, 2. ___________________, 3. ___________________, 4. ___________________, 5. ___________________
Altaic (Korean)
1. __________________, 2. __________________, 3. __________________,
4. __________________, 5. __________________

Eskimo-Aleut (Eskimo)
1. __________________, 2. __________________, 3. __________________,
4. __________________, 5. __________________

Chukchi-Kamch (Chukchi)
1. __________________, 2. __________________, 3. __________________,
4. __________________, 5. __________________

Amerind (N. Amerind)
1. __________________, 2. __________________, 3. __________________,
4. __________________, 5. __________________

Na-Dene
1. __________________, 2. __________________, 3. __________________,
4. __________________, 5. __________________

Sino-Tibetan
1. __________________, 2. __________________, 3. __________________,
4. __________________, 5. __________________

Austric (Malaysian)
1. __________________, 2. __________________, 3. __________________,
4. __________________, 5. __________________

Indo-Pacific (New Guinean)
1. __________________, 2. __________________, 3. __________________,
4. __________________, 5. __________________

Australian
1. __________________, 2. __________________, 3. __________________,
4. __________________, 5. __________________