

UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: LING 330

Date Submitted: 10/5/11

Proposed Effective Date: 1/1/12

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COURSE INFORMATION: (please provide all information in the "current" column, and only the information changing in the "proposed" column)

change		current	proposed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Course Number(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Formal Title		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transcript Title (≤24c)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommended Course Preparation		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prerequisite	Upper-division standing, MLL 190 or 191, ENGL 206 or consent of the instructor	MLL 301; LING 210 recommended
<input type="checkbox"/>	Credits		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeatable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Max. Total Credits		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Grading Method(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail	<input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course examines how language use determines linguistic form, that is, how the shape and meaning of an utterance is context-dependent. Topics may vary from year to year to encompass the range from theory to methodology in language studies. Some likely topics would be speech acts theory, situational semantics, discourse and conversational analysis, and the ethnography of communication.

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION: (leave blank if no changes are being proposed to the catalog description. NOTE: information about prerequisites should NOT appear in the catalog description.)

An examination of the principles that govern language use. This course studies linguistic performance issues, particularly the ways in which context influences the shape and meaning of utterances. Pragmatics, discourse analysis, and conversation analysis provide the theoretical orientations for an in-depth examination of language in action. Students will complete an original research paper.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:

The old description was written thirty years ago and is awkward in several ways. In addition, it makes the class sound like a topics course, which might have been a good approach in 1982, but, with the expansion of the field of pragmatics, a coherent overview of a real discipline is now the most appropriate content for this course. In addition, we would like to emphasize that the class involves student research.