

HISTORY OF LINGUISTICS

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Texts:

Robins, Robert H. *A Short History of Linguistics*. London: Longmans.
Harris, Randy. *The Linguistics Wars*. Oxford: Oxford U. Press.
Course Packet (UpClose)

Course Requirements and Grading:

Mid-Term: 30%

Final Exam: 40%

2 Book Reviews (15% each)

a) SIHoLS series volume or equivalent

b) Harris: *The Linguistic Wars*

Syllabus

1. Organizational Meeting (Robins, Chapter 1)
2. Ancient Near East (Sumerian, etc.) (Robins, Chapter 2)
3. Pre-Socratics and Plato (*Cratylus*, excerpts from *Sophist*)
4. Aristotle and the Stoics (*De Interpretatione*, *Poetics*)
5. Dionysius Thrax and Apollonius Dyscolus
6. Varro (Robins, Chapter 3; *De Lingua Latina* Book VIII)
7. Quintilian and the later Roman tradition (*Institutio Oratoria*)
8. Early Medieval Grammar (Robins Chapter 4)
9. Speculative Grammarians of the Middle Ages (*Thomas of Erfurt*)
10. First Treatment of Vernaculars: First Grammarian, Occitan

11. Dante: *De Vulgari Eloquentia* and Italian Renaissance (*De Vulgari Eloquentia*)
12. European Renaissance: Vernacular Traditions (Robins Chapter 5)
13. Arabic and Hebrew Grammatical Traditions
14. General Grammar in the 16th and 17th Century (*Grammaire Générale et Raisonnée*)
15. Locke (*Essay on Human Understanding*)
16. Condillac and Debates on the Origin of Language (*Essay on the Origin of Human Knowledge*)
17. Historical Linguistics before 1800 (Robins Chapter 6)
18. Phonetics before 1800
19. Review
20. Mid-Term
21. Panini (Cardona: “Indian Linguistics”)
22. Panini
23. Jones, Schlegel and the Discovery of Sanskrit (*Anniversary Discourse; Language and Wisdom*)
24. Rask, Bopp and Grimm (Robins Chapter 7; “Old Northern or Icelandic Language”)
25. Humboldt (“Structure and Influence of Language”)
26. Schleicher, Lottner, Verner: Historical Linguistics at mid-century
27. Brugmann and the Neogrammarians (Sievers: “Foundations of Phonetics”)
28. Romance Linguistics in the 19th Century: The Dialect Debates
29. American Linguistics through Whitney (Whitney: *Language and the Study of Language* - extracts) *Book Review 1*;
30. Saussure: Historical Linguistics (*Course in General Linguistics* - extracts)
31. Saussure: Synchronic Theory (Robins Chapter 8)

32. American Anthropological Linguistics (Sapir: “The Grammarian and his Language”; “The Status of Linguistics as a Science” ; Whorf: “Grammatical Categories”)

33. American Structuralism (Bloomfield: *Language* - extracts)

34. European Linguistics Before 1950: Prague School, Hjelmslev, Firth, Bühler

35. American Phonology after Bloomfield

36. Early Transformational & Generative Grammar (Chomsky: *Syntactic Structures* - extracts)

37. Chomsky video?

38. *Book Review 2*: Later TG: The Linguistic Wars

39. Typology

40. Phonology

41. Psycholinguistics

42. Lexicography, Terminology

43. Review

Final Exam