HSSP Summer 2017 - H11461 Introduction to Linguistics
Section 1: 12:00-1:30pm | Section 2: 2:30pm-4:00pm | Room: 4-159
Instructor: Joonho Ko - joonhok@mit.edu

Linguistics is the study of languages at the broadest scale: over the course of six lectures, we will cover four major fields in linguistics: morphology, phonetics, syntax, and semantics. If time allows, additional lecture time may be used to cover other miscellaneous topics such as endangered languages, sign language, and] language acquisition. This class will be a condensed, yet more relaxed version of MIT's class 24.900.

Requirements: None! There is no textbook for this class, and all the notes and materials you need will be posted online. That being said, you may want to bring a laptop and/or a notebook to class to a) use Praat, a computer program, or b) take notes. This is an introductory linguistics class, and no prior knowledge whatsoever is assumed.

Homework: Although there are no grades, and ***no mandatory homework*** (yay!), I may give optional assignments that are useful for hands-on practice or experience that integrates well with the course material. Possible assignments may include figuring out morphemes in Swahili given a data sample (morphology), using Praat to record your voice and distinguish the acoustic differences between vowels and fricatives (phonology), constructing syntax trees (syntax), and conducting a fieldwork report of a language you don't know by interviewing your friend over the course of the summer (fieldwork). If you choose to partake in linguistic fieldwork, you have the option to present your findings for a portion of the final class! If you don't know what some of the above terms mean, that's okay! All will be explained as you take the course.

I hope you have as much fun learning about linguistics as I'll have teaching it. :)

Schedule of Topics: (subject to change)

date	topic	homework (optional)
july 9	overview, morphology	swahili morphemes
july 16	phonetics, phonology	praat analysis
july 23	syntax	syntax trees
july 30	semantics	fieldwork report
august 6	misc. topics	-
august 13	misc. topics	fieldwork presentations