

# Language Evolution – PLIN0043

## Practical information

### 2021-22

#### Lecturers

Nausicaa Pouscoulous – course coordinator: [n.pouscoulous@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:n.pouscoulous@ucl.ac.uk)

Nathan Klindedinst: [nathank@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:nathank@ucl.ac.uk)

Keith Jensen – biologist and experimental psychologist from the University of Manchester:  
[keith.jensen@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:keith.jensen@manchester.ac.uk)

Josie Bowerman – teaching assistant now at the University of Edinburgh:  
[josephine.bowerman.15@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:josephine.bowerman.15@ucl.ac.uk)

#### Teaching

- Recorded lectures

You will find the recorded lecture online on Moodle every week. Typically, this will be divided in shorter recordings. On occasion, there might also be additional elements for you to watch or read (e.g., short videos).

- Tutorials  
Thursday 2-3pm (B02)  
Thursday 3-4pm (B02)

#### Assessment

- Assignment 1: Literature review (500 words)  
30% of final grade  
Deadline: **Monday November 15<sup>th</sup>**
- Assignment 2: Final essay (2000 words)  
70% of final grade  
Deadline: **Wednesday January 12<sup>th</sup>**

## Questions?

- The best place to ask is during tutorials.
- You can also use the Discussion board on Moodle.

For more personal questions:

- My office hour is on Tuesday at 1pm.  
Zoom Meeting ID: 931 0216 6421  
Passcode: 744697
- You can always email us:
  - [n.pouscoulous@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:n.pouscoulous@ucl.ac.uk)
  - [nathank@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:nathank@ucl.ac.uk)
  - [josephine.bowerman.15@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:josephine.bowerman.15@ucl.ac.uk)

## Outline of the course

Lecture 1: Introduction	Nausicaa Pouscoulous
Lecture 2: What is evolution?	Keith Jensen
Lecture 3: The biological evidence	Keith Jensen
Lecture 4: The evolution of speech	Nausicaa Pouscoulous
Lecture 5: The evolution of syntax	Nathan Klinedinst
READING WEEK	
Lecture 6: The evolution of semantics	Nathan Klinedinst
Lecture 7: The comparative method	Nausicaa Pouscoulous
Lecture 8: Language evolution and pragmatics	Nausicaa Pouscoulous
Lecture 9: Cultural evolution & language evolution	Josie Bowerman
Lecture 10: Taking stock	Nausicaa Pouscoulous