



Course and Instructor Evaluation Summary Department of Linguistics

Chai, Yuan
LIGN 8 - Languages & Cultures/America (A)
Winter Quarter 2021

Number of Students Enrolled: 178
Number of Evaluations Submitted: 66

PLEASE COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Your class level is

11 (16.7%):	Freshman
35 (53.0%):	Sophomore
11 (16.7%):	Junior
9 (13.6%):	Senior
0 (0.0%):	Graduate
0 (0.0%):	Extension
0 (0.0%):	Visitor

2. Your reason for taking this class is

0 (0.0%):	Major
1 (1.5%):	Minor
58 (87.9%):	Gen. Ed.
1 (1.5%):	Elective
6 (9.1%):	Interest

3. What grade do you expect in this class?

54 (81.8%):	A
7 (10.6%):	B
0 (0.0%):	C
0 (0.0%):	D
0 (0.0%):	F
5 (7.6%):	P
0 (0.0%):	NP

GENERAL QUESTIONS

4. I learned a great deal from this course.

1 (1.5%):	Strongly Disagree
3 (4.5%):	Disagree
9 (13.6%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
22 (33.3%):	Agree
31 (47.0%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

5. How many hours a week do you spend studying outside of class on average?

12 (18.2%):	0-1
32 (48.5%):	2-3
14 (21.2%):	4-5
4 (6.1%):	6-7
3 (4.5%):	8-9
1 (1.5%):	10-11
0 (0.0%):	12-13
0 (0.0%):	14-15
0 (0.0%):	16-17
0 (0.0%):	18-19
0 (0.0%):	20 or more

6. How often do you attend this course?

9 (13.6%):	Very Rarely
18 (27.3%):	Some of the Time
39 (59.1%):	Most of the Time

COURSE MATERIAL LIGN 8

7. The course material is intellectually stimulating.

1 (1.5%):	Strongly Disagree
2 (3.0%):	Disagree
7 (10.6%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
35 (53.0%):	Agree
21 (31.8%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

8. Assignments promote learning.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
3 (4.5%):	Disagree
6 (9.1%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
33 (50.0%):	Agree
24 (36.4%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

9. Required reading is useful.

1 (1.5%): Strongly Disagree
11 (16.7%): Disagree
14 (21.2%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
23 (34.8%): Agree
16 (24.2%): Strongly Agree
1 (1.5%): Not Applicable

10. This course is difficult relative to others.

9 (13.6%): Strongly Disagree
27 (40.9%): Disagree
20 (30.3%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
7 (10.6%): Agree
3 (4.5%): Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

11. Exams are representative of the course material.

0 (0.0%): Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%): Disagree
1 (1.5%): Neither Agree nor Disagree
31 (47.0%): Agree
34 (51.5%): Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%): Not Applicable

12. Do you recommend this course overall?

62 (93.9%): Yes
4 (6.1%): No

13. Course LIGN 8:

- I took this for my DEI requirement and because I've always wanted to take a linguistics course. Best decision ever! I honestly loved each week in this course because the material was so interesting to me. Cannot recommend enough!
- material is extensive and interesting
- Very informative! Really expanded my understanding of the use of language and its cultural impacts.
- Lign 8 is a course that explores the history and various aspects of the languages present in the United States. The course is useful in understanding the intricate state of speech and community in the United States.
- Learned a great deal about languages, dialects, accent-related issues, and how to preserve endangered languages. Most importantly, this course taught me that all languages are equal. Don't judge someone based on their accents or the languages they speak. Recommend this course.
- Very great class, topic is so interesting
- This course is interesting to learn and it's fun to learn more about what makes up a language or dialect.

- As a DEI, this course not only teaches students the origins/development of different languages and dialects in America, but also describes the social and political significance behind such topics, and it is definitely interesting to learn and gain new insight from.
- The course was interesting and I learned a lot. Definitely has given me a greater appreciation of languages that people of this world speak. It was super cool to see all the diversity.
- This course is possibly my favorite thus far at UCSD. The material is so interesting and the workload is respectful of busy students without sacrificing information retention and exploration. This course has inspired me to potentially minor in linguistics.
- Interesting and very informative. Loved learning about linguistics and how that influences our culture and society. Overall great!
- This course was fascinating especially since I had very little experience with learning about the diversity of languages in the US.
- Course is very informative and straightforward.
- Overall, I thought this course was interesting and engaging. I've never taken a linguistics class before or even really looked into cultures in a class.
- Very interesting course! Probably my favorite this quarter.
- The course LIGN 8 itself is quite interesting. Even though I am not a linguistics major, I enjoyed this class to a large extent. Much of the material is engaging and made me appreciate other languages around the world, and even just within the U.S.
- LIGN 8 was a relatively stress free and interesting course that I took in order to satisfy my DEI requirement for muir college. I learned a great deal about Linguistics and language as a whole, so in my opinion an interesting course which you can learn a lot in that also won't kill your GPA.

14. Exams/Quizzes/Papers:

- Exams and quizzes were very representative of the course and lecture/reading material and truly tested your understanding of the course and its central topics.
- The Exams and Papers are reflective of the topics of the course. The final paper is a practice of research and research papers.
- Exams and homework are challenging questions as some of them are purposefully trick ones but most are found in the lecture slides.
- The exams were fair, as well as the quizzes. The fact that we get to drop our lowest quiz score also helped ease some of the stresses that come with test-taking.
- The quizzes were hard because of wording. I'm not sure if that's how it's suppose to be .
- -
- Exams were fair and were similar in content to the bi-weekly quizzes, which allowed for multiple attempts. There is just one final paper due at the end of the course which is based on the class survey assignment given in the beginning, and I had no complaints there.
- Homework assignments, quizzes, and exams reflect the learning material well.
- Pretty easy. Especially since they were open book.

- All quizzes, exams, and papers reflect what we learned in class. The instructor wants everyone to do well in this class.
- Exams and quizzes, as well as the final paper were all not too difficult and relatively easy and straightforward.
- I thought the quizzes and exams were extremely fair. I really appreciate that.
- Exams and Quizzes are fully reflective of content learned in class. Papers are straightforward in its guidelines.
- Quizzes are short, accomodating, and reflective of course material. Their open note nature is also conducive to prioritizing understanding and application of concepts over sheer memorization. The final paper also is formatted in such a way that exercises data analysis and drawing conclusions from our understanding of course concepts.
- very much like what the course covers

15. Reading [title(s) and comments]:

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- The readings have been great in helping me understand the lecture material. Even though they were sometimes lengthy, I always read each of them due to how interesting they were. It felt very applicable as knowledge that I would remember throughout my life.
- Readings can be long but ultimately contribute to learning of the class.
- The readings are useful for the paper. I wish the readings were adapted to make the information easier. Seeing reading that is 50 pages long is intimidating. I feel the slides could be shorter. I wish the separation between the research material and the general learning material was clearer.
- I did not find the readings to provide too much in the way of additional information, but they did reinforce lecture concepts.
- I did feel as though the readings were a bit redundant at times and seemed a little unnecessary when paired with the asynchronous lecture videos. While some were supplemental, others simply repeated information we had already learned.
- Informative, interesting
- Although the readings can be pretty long and sometimes boring, they significantly help with learning the material aside from the lectures.
- Readings are sometimes required and helpful for homework and quizzes.
- Readings were helpful in learning more about the course material.
- Some of the reading were interesting but there was a lot of them

INSTRUCTOR Yuan Chai

16. Instructor displays a proficient command of the material.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
2 (3.1%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
27 (42.2%):	Agree
35 (54.7%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable
2:	[No Response]

17. Instructor is well prepared for classes.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
2 (3.0%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
22 (33.3%):	Agree
42 (63.6%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

18. Instructor's speech is clear and audible.

3 (4.5%):	Strongly Disagree
1 (1.5%):	Disagree
8 (12.1%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
33 (50.0%):	Agree
21 (31.8%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

19. Instructor explains the course material well.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
5 (7.6%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
28 (42.4%):	Agree
33 (50.0%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

20. Lectures hold your attention.

2 (3.0%):	Strongly Disagree
6 (9.1%):	Disagree
11 (16.7%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
26 (39.4%):	Agree
21 (31.8%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

21. Instructor's lecture style facilitates note-taking.

1 (1.5%):	Strongly Disagree
4 (6.2%):	Disagree
12 (18.5%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
24 (36.9%):	Agree
23 (35.4%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.5%):	Not Applicable
1:	[No Response]

22. Instructor shows concern for students' learning.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
2 (3.0%):	Disagree
3 (4.5%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
24 (36.4%):	Agree
36 (54.5%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.5%):	Not Applicable

23. Instructor promotes appropriate questions/discussion.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
4 (6.1%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
21 (31.8%):	Agree
41 (62.1%):	Strongly Agree
0 (0.0%):	Not Applicable

24. Instructor is accessible outside of class.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
2 (3.0%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
25 (37.9%):	Agree
31 (47.0%):	Strongly Agree
8 (12.1%):	Not Applicable

25. Instructor starts and finishes class on time.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
1 (1.5%):	Disagree
1 (1.5%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
23 (34.8%):	Agree
39 (59.1%):	Strongly Agree
2 (3.0%):	Not Applicable

26. Instructor is effective in promoting academic integrity.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
2 (3.0%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
30 (45.5%):	Agree
33 (50.0%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.5%):	Not Applicable

27. The instructor practiced effective teaching strategies that acknowledged and valued differences among students, including differences of race and gender identity.

0 (0.0%):	Strongly Disagree
0 (0.0%):	Disagree
3 (4.7%):	Neither Agree nor Disagree
15 (23.4%):	Agree
45 (70.3%):	Strongly Agree
1 (1.6%):	Not Applicable
2:	[No Response]

28. Instructor Yuan Chai:

- Professor Chai is an intelligent individual who is quite knowledgeable in the field of linguistics. Her instructions on assignments are always very clear and I can tell she always puts in great effort in her live and non-live lectures. Her teaching style is very good. My only criticism is that I notice she tends to go through her slides really fast sometimes, causing me to have to pause in the pre-recorded lectures quite often. However, she compensates for this by posting the lecture slides on Canvas, which is handy. Nonetheless, I would have appreciated if she would have paused for at least 5 seconds after reading off each slide to facilitate note-taking.
- Prof. Chai is a good instructor who is knowledgeable about course material. She encourages discussion about different topics based on material and answers questions.
- The instructor is very helpful and accessible. She responds quickly to emails and gives very clear instructions for assignments like quizzes, exams, and papers.
- Yuan was a joy to engage with in synchronous lectures and provided a comprehensive view of the course material.
- Professor Chai is really passionate about linguistics; she shared her own experience with us to help us understand certain concepts. The class materials professor provided are attractive. I used to be not interested in linguistics, but I am willing to dig deeper into this field now because of Professor Chai's class.
- Yuan is a great instructor, but the lectures can move quickly sometimes. It is challenging to take notes during the lectures because of the speed. Often times she spends a lot of time reviewing documentaries we had watched or discussing the asynchronous lecture leaving little time for new material. This material then gets crammed into the end of the lecture at a quick pace which makes it a little challenging to follow.
- Highly intelligent and kind individual. 100% would recommend this class because of Professor Chai.
- Reads off of slides most of the time, which can be a bit boring.
- She puts so much effort into her classes and it really shows! She makes her presentations multimedia and has interesting guest speakers. She occasionally goes to fast when giving lectures so it is hard to take sufficient notes though.
- She was great, very helpful and fun to learn from.
- Professor Chai is one of my favorite professors so far at UCSD. Again, even though I am not a linguistics major (and took the class as a DEI requirement), I respect her and the lectures she gave. The material was very inclusive and eye-opening, and often made me question and realize my own biases with languages. To me, she was clear and audible, and was always responsive to

questions and facilitated great classroom discussions. I would recommend her and her class to others.

- Professor Yuan was a great instructor for LIGN 8. Although lectures could get a little boring at times, she explains the concepts of linguistics/language in a way that is easy to understand and her lecture slides are a good source of learning/note taking. She would constantly ask the class if there were any questions before moving on, and during live lectures she would review the course material from the asynchronous lecture and take questions at the beginning as well, which shows that she cares for her students.
- The instructor is good at discussing the material. She is clear in teaching.
- The most caring professor I've ever had.
- It's awesome that you are passionate about the topic and I appreciate that.
- I loved Mrs. Chai as I feel like her class structure and grading were very manageable and made sense.
- She was awesome! Seemed very knowledgeable and passionate about the subject and delivered her knowledge well.
- Very knowledgeable and great at explaining different topics in the course. Loved how she included people in live lectures and opened up the discussion for people to share.

29. Do you recommend this professor overall?

62 (93.9%): Yes
4 (6.1%): No

Custom Question 5

30. Please provide examples of the ways the instructor did or did not create a learning environment that welcomed, challenged, and supported all students.

- Professor Chai set the exam windows to be flexible. Students in different time zones can take it whenever they prefer. Professor Chai also encourages students to share their experiences in class if they are willing to so that everyone can learn from each other as well.
- She was really good at asking for our input on the subject matter.
- She allows people to ask questions during lectures. She makes people feel welcome despite varied language experience.
- She always made time for there to be conversation and was always listening being able to comment. It felt that I was definitely being heard
- The professor is very helpful and encouraged conversations and questions during the live lectures so students can fully understand everything.
- Her use of gender-neutral language and consciousness of similar issues facilitated a welcoming environment for everyone. I, as a racial minority, felt more welcomed in this class than in any other—which I appreciate.
- She encouraged discussion and made sure to give disclaimers about course materials beforehand just in case.

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- She would constantly ask the class if there were any questions before moving on in lecture, and would review the course material from the asynchronous lecture and take questions at the beginning of each class. Promoted students to participate by sharing their personal experiences with language. Quizzes and homework were all fair, and supported students by dropping the lowest HW/Quiz grade.
- The instructor promotes learning by encouraging occasional active discussions in the live lecture. She also supports all students by actively engaging with them. For instance, she always addresses everyone by their name, and always makes sure that she is pronouncing the names correctly by asking. Yuan is a very considerate and caring professor overall.
- Professor Chai provides a safe space for students to share their own experiences and wants to get to know everyone. She makes sure to write down the pronunciations of students' names in class so next time she will be prepared to say them correctly and she puts so much effort into teaching this class. BEST professor ever.
- She planned engaging discussions.
- Yuan always found ways to encourage students to relate their own experiences to the course material and celebrated their linguistic and cultural diversity. Yuan was also patient and accommodating of students who did not understand certain topics and took the time to explain in detail until they were sure that the whole class had mastered the concepts.

Please note that any responses or comments submitted by evaluators do not necessarily reflect the opinions of instructors, Linguistics, Academic Affairs, or UC San Diego. Responses and comments are made available without auditing or editing, and they may not be modified or deleted, to ensure that each evaluator has an opportunity to express his or her opinion.