

LAW AND LANGUAGE – Spring Quarter 2011

I. Course Information

LIGN 105, Law & Language (4 units credit), Section I.D. 708252
Meetings: Tu & Th, 12:30-1:50 in Center 216
Course web site: <http://grammar.ucsd.edu/courses/lign105>

Professor: Sanford Schane
Office Hours: Thursday 2:00-3:15, or by appointment, 3101 APM
Tel. (858) 434 -7231
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Linguistics Dept. Office: Tel. (858) 534-3600

TA's: (grading homework): Lisa Rosenfelt; Tara Rodriguez
Office Hours: Lisa: Thursday, 10-11:30 (3351E APM)
Tara: Wednesday, 11-12:30 (4432 APM)
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LIGN 105 may be used as one of the *elective courses* for the **minor** in Law and Society, and as one of the courses for the **major** in Linguistics.

II. Course Objectives and Principal Topics

- To recognize ambiguity and misunderstandings in contracts and in the analysis of legal cases
- To examine the role of metaphor for legal fictions
- To apply speech act theory to areas of the law – e.g. hearsay, contract formation
- To consider the historical origins and some of the properties of legal language
- To learn how to analyze court cases

III. Course Requirements and Grading

- Reading of all assigned readings and court cases **for discussion in class** (attendance will be noted)
- Written homework assignments (20% of grade) - must be turned in on date due
- 2 In-class written midterm examinations 20% each; 40% of grade).
- In-class written final examination (40% of grade)

IV. Course Text & Reader

- Required text: *Language and the Law*, Sanford Schane, Continuum Press, 2006.
- Course reader: (to be purchased from University Readers: (858) 552-1120; or go to website at: www.universityreaders.com)
- Recommended: A law dictionary (various law dictionaries are available on the Internet)

V. Due dates of Exams and Written Essay

- *Midterm Exam I:* In class, Tuesday, April 19 (Week IV)
- *Midterm Exam II:* In class, Tuesday, May 10 (Week VII)
- *Final Exam:* In class, Monday, June 6, 11:30-1:30 (Week XI)