Ling/CS 581 Midterm 2021 Results & Advice

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Abstract
This note contains facts and statistics about the 2021 midterm for Linguistics 525, Introduction to Semantics. Spoiler alert. People did pretty well.

1 Introduction
On the whole, people did very well. The surprise was the number of people who did not smooth on the noisy channel section, even though the directions explicitly asked for that. That only cost 5 points, so it was a pretty minor blip.

Outline This note is organized as follows. Section 2 summarizes the statistics. Section 3 discusses how to interpret your grade. Finally, Section 4 gives advice about what to do going forward.

2 Summary
Here are the key statistics:
### Interpretation

Half the students scored 94 or better; half scored lower. The average grade was 91.63. Approximately two-thirds of the students had a grade falling between 84 and 99, which will work out to a grade falling between B- and A inclusive.

If you have gotten full credit on all your assignments, an 84 works out to a B- in the course so far. Keep that up and there’s a good chance the grade can improve.

### Advice

The course generally gets easier from now on.

The final will cover grammar, parsing, statistical parsing, and word vectors.