



Course Descriptor
ENGL 401 Sociolinguistics

Proposed Academic Year	FALL 2021-22	Last Reviewed Academic Year	
Course Code	ENGL 401	Course Title	Sociolinguistics
Credit hours	3	Level of study	Undergraduate
College / Centre	College of Arts and Humanities	Department	Education Department
Co-requisites	None	Pre-requisites	None

1. COURSE OUTLINE

This course is designed to build on students' foundational understanding of key constructs in the study of sociolinguistics and discourse. In sociolinguistics, the course examines, critically, the connections between language and culture, solidarity, gender, inequality and public policies. In the study of discourse, the focus will be on some of the major approaches to discourse, which may include ethnography of speaking; the pragmatic approach; Bourdeiu's theory of society; and interactional sociolinguistics.

2. AIMS

The course aims to:

- Empower students' knowledge about key concepts in the study of sociolinguistics and discourse.
- Enable students to examine critically the connections between language and culture, solidarity, gender, inequality, and public policies.
- Familiarize students with major approaches used in discourse analysis.

3. LEARNING OUTCOMES, TEACHING, LEARNING and ASSESSMENT METHODS

Learning Outcomes <i>(Definitive)</i>	Teaching and Learning methods <i>(Indicative)</i>	Assessment <i>(Indicative)</i>
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:		
1. Discuss the connections between language and culture, solidarity, gender, inequality and public policies.	Lectures, Class Activity & Assignment	Formative in-class assessment and feedback, & Exam



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2. Demonstrate with examples the connections between language and culture, solidarity, gender, inequality, and public policies	Lectures & Class Activity	Formative in-class assessment and feedback, & Exam
3. Discuss the major approaches to discourse.	Lectures & Class Activity	Formative in-class assessment and feedback, & Exam
4. Analyze case studies and other sources of data to explain critically the connections between language and culture, solidarity, gender, inequality, and public policies	Lectures & Class Activity	Formative in-class assessment and feedback, & Exam Case Study report
5. Analyze data using the major approaches to discourse	Lectures, Class Activity	Formative in-class assessment and feedback, Exam & Project
6. Appraise the explanatory value of the various theoretical approaches to discourse. Assessment Strategies.	Lectures & Class Activity	Formative in-class assessment and feedback, & Exam
	All teaching and learning methods should utilize e-learning facilities to, further, boost the delivery of the course. Moodle has already been used in teaching and learning, since 2017. Microsoft teams has been used during the breakout of covid 19 pandemic and will continue to be used after the pandemic if online classes are scheduled.	

4. ASSESSMENT WEIGHTING

Assessment	Percentage of final mark (%)
In class activities	10
Project	10
Participation	10
Presentation	10



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Midterm	20
Final Exam	40
TOTAL	100%

5. ACHIEVING A PASS

Students will achieve **3** credit hours for this course by passing **ALL** of the course assessments [*alternatively, list the compulsory pass assessments**] and achieving a **minimum overall score of 50%**

*NB *Ensure that ALL learning outcomes are taken into account*

6. COURSE CONTENT (Indicative)

LECTURE TOPIC	TIME (HOURS)
1. Introduction to the course	3
2. Languages, dialects, and varieties	3
3. Language contact: the range of emergent forms	3
4. Language varieties and language attitudes	3
5. Sociolinguistics and Discourse: Basic Issues (1)	3
6. Sociolinguistics and Discourse: Basic Issues (2)	3
7. Bourdieu's theory of language and power	3
8. Bourdieu's theory of language and power	3
9. Language planning and policy	3
10. Mid-semester test	1.5
11. Tutorials + Phonetic transcription test	1.5
12. Language, Gender and Disadvantage	3
13. Pragmatics and Discourse (1)	3
14. Pragmatics and Discourse (2)	3
15. Culture and Discourse (1)	3
16. Culture and Discourse (2)	3
TOTAL HOURS	45
Plus RECOMMENDED INDEPENDENT STUDY HOURS	90
TOTAL COURSE HOURS	135

7. RECOMMENDED READING

Core text/s:

Mesthrie, R., Swann, J., Deumert, A. & Leap, W.L. (2009). *Introducing Sociolinguistics* 2nd Edition. ISBN-13: 9780748638444
Paul Baker. (2010). *SocioLinguistics and CorpusLinguistics*. Edingburgh University Press



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- Albirini, A. 2011. The sociolinguistic functions of code-switching between Standard Arabic and Dialectal Arabic. *Language in Society*, 40: 537-562..
- Graeme Trousdale. (2010). *An Introduction to English Sociolinguistics*. Edinburgh University Press
- Carmen Llamas; Dominic Watt. (2010). *Language and identities*. Edinburgh University Press

Library + online resources:

<http://moodle.asu.edu.om/moodle/course>