

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Linguistics and Translation
with effect from Semester A 2019/20**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Fundamentals of Linguistics

Course Code: LT2229

Course Duration: One Semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: B2

Arts and Humanities

Proposed Area:
(for GE courses only)

Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations

Science and Technology

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites:
(Course Code and Title) NIL

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title) NIL

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title) CTL2229 Linguistics I / LT2290 Introduction to Language Studies /
LT2229 Linguistics I

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

This course aims to:

- introduce students to the basic concepts of phonetics, phonology, morphology syntax, semantics, and other core areas of linguistics;
- enable students to analyse language data and discover and formulate rules that are observationally, descriptively and explanatorily adequate;
- lay the foundation for students to study more advanced linguistics courses.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs [#]	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick ✓ where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Apply basic concepts of linguistics in such areas as phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics.	40%	✓		
2.	Observe and discuss language phenomena in various perspectives.	30%		✓	
3.	Apply scientific linguistic methodology to discover and formulate rules that are observationally, descriptively and explanatorily adequate in the analysis of simple language data.	30%			✓
		100%			

* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

[#] Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.			Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	
1	Lectures – Presentation of concepts, illustrations, synthesis of readings, in-class activities.	✓	✓		2 hours
2	Tutorials – Answering tutorial questions, discussions, demonstrations and activities.	✓	✓	✓	1 hour
3	Assignments – Applications of concepts and theories to analyses of linguistic data and phenomena.	✓	✓	✓	

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.			Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3		
Continuous Assessment: 60%					
Midterm exam A midterm exam in which students will demonstrate their grasp of linguistic concepts and theories and ability to apply them to linguistic data analysis	✓		✓	30%	
Assignments Multiple assignments (in the form of problem sets and DEC-oriented projects) in which students will apply linguistic methodology to actual language data and observations.	✓	✓	✓	30%	
Examination: 40% (duration: 2 hours) To check if students have mastered the concepts and theories in solving linguistic problems. (CILO No. 1, 2, 3)					

* The weightings should add up to 100%.

100%

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Midterm exam	Students' grasp of linguistic concepts and theories and ability to apply them to linguistic data analysis.	Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.	Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.	Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.	Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.
2. Assignments	Relevance; accuracy and clarity; originality; team work	Strong evidence of excellent command of subject matter related to the area of linguistics; Excellent application of concepts and theories taught in class or beyond; Excellent analysis of data collected.	Evidence of good command of subject matter related to the area of linguistics; Good application of concepts and theories taught in class; Good analysis of data collected.	Evidence of adequate command of subject matter related to the area of linguistics; Adequate application of concepts and theories taught in class; Adequate analysis of data collected.	Inadequate command of subject matter related to the area of linguistics; Inadequate application of concepts and theories taught in class; Inadequate analysis of data collected.	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter related to the area of linguistics; Poor application of concepts and theories taught in class; Poor analysis of data collected.
3. Final exam	To check if students have mastered the concepts and theories in solving linguistic problems.	Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.	Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.	Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.	Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

1. Linguistics as a scientific discipline
Properties of human natural language
Linguistics as a science
Competence and performance
2. Structure of human natural language
Structure of words
Human sounds and sound patterns
Categories and constituents in syntax
Sense and reference,
Pragmatics
3. Uses and users of language
Language varieties
Dialect
Register
Genre
Style
Bilingualism
Cross-cultural communication
4. Language change
Sound changes
Grammar changes
Meaning changes
Reconstruction of proto-languages
5. Writing
History of Writing
Writing systems

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	Fromkin, V., R. Rodman, and N. Hyams. 2014. <i>An introduction to language</i> (International 10 th ed.). Wadsworth.
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2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	Online Resources: http://www.lshk.org/ Linguistic Society of Hong Kong
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