

# LT2229: FUNDAMENTALS OF LINGUISTICS

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## Effective Term

Semester A 2024/25

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Fundamentals of Linguistics

### Subject Code

LT - Linguistics and Translation

### Course Number

2229

### Academic Unit

Linguistics and Translation (LT)

### College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

### Course Duration

One Semester

### Credit Units

3

### Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

### Medium of Instruction

English

### Medium of Assessment

English

### Prerequisites

Nil

### Precursors

Nil

### Equivalent Courses

CTL2229 Linguistics I / LT2290 Introduction to Language Studies / LT2229 Linguistics I

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

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.

**Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)**

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Apply basic concepts of linguistics in areas such as phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics.	40	x		
2	Observe and discuss language phenomena in various perspectives.	30		x	
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			x

**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 real-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.

**Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)**

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)	
1	Lectures	Students will engage with presentations of concepts, illustrations, and synthesis of readings.	1, 2, 3	3 hours
2	Class Activities	Students will participate in class activities, such as group discussions, demonstrations and answering questions.	1, 2, 3	

**Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)**

ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1 Midterm examination A midterm exam in which students will demonstrate their grasp of linguistic concepts and theories and ability to apply them to linguistic data analysis	1, 3	30	
2 Term paper One 1,200 word paper in the form of report on a mini-DEC project that will apply linguistic concepts, methodology, and theories to analyze actual language data and phenomena/observations.	1, 2, 3	30	

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

60

**Examination (%)**

40

**Examination Duration (Hours)**

2

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Assessment Task**

1. Midterm examination

**Criterion**

Students' grasp of linguistic concepts and theories and ability to apply them to linguistic data analysis.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

**Marginal (D)**

Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

**Failure (F)**

Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

### Assessment Task

#### 2. Term paper

#### Criterion

Relevance; accuracy and clarity; originality; and demonstration of skills in linguistic analysis and reporting.

#### Excellent (A+, A, A-)

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.

#### Good (B+, B, B-)

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.

#### Fair (C+, C, C-)

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.

#### Marginal (D)

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.

#### Failure (F)

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.

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### Assessment Task

#### 3. Final examination

#### Criterion

To check if students have mastered the concepts and theories in solving linguistic problems.

#### Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

#### Good (B+, B, B-)

Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

#### Fair (C+, C, C-)

Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

#### Marginal (D)

Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

#### Failure (F)

Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

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## Part III Other Information

### Keyword Syllabus

#### 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

### Reading List

#### Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Fromkin, V., R. Rodman, and N. Hyams. 2014. An introduction to language (International 10th ed.). Wadsworth.

#### Additional Readings

Title	
1	Online Resources: <a href="http://www.lshk.org/">http://www.lshk.org/</a> Linguistic Society of Hong Kong