

LT2203: LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY

Effective Term

Semester A 2022/23

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Language in Society

Subject Code

LT - Linguistics and Translation

Course Number

2203

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

CTL2203 Language in Society

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the key sociolinguistic theories and concepts. Students will learn to discover, identify and analyse the sociolinguistic issues in different societies.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Describe and analyse functions of and differences between a standard language and its dialects.	x	x	
2	Analyse the influence of sociolinguistic variables on language use.	x	x	
3	Analyse the functions of languages in bilingual or multilingual speech communities.	x	x	
4	Discover and describe attitudes to languages or varieties of language in speech communities.	x	x	x
5	Discover and describe and analyse language planning issues and practices in different countries.	x	x	x
6	Identify the relationship between language, culture and cognition.	x	x	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.

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

TLAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Readings	Reading book chapters and articles.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
2	Lectures	Theories, concepts, models, explanations, illustrations, synthesis of readings, in-class activities.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
3	In-class exercises and activities	Answer tutorial questions, group discussions and activities, short presentations.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	In-class exercises and activities In-class exercises and activities require students to find information, analyse data, solve problems, and apply the knowledge learnt in class to discuss sociolinguistic issues. In-class exercises/ and activities will be assigned as individual or group work.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	20	
2	Group project: mini data collection, data analysis and written report	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	40	

Continuous Assessment (%)

60

Examination (%)

40

Examination Duration (Hours)

2

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

1. In-class exercises and activities

Criterion

Mastery of key concepts; data analysis.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Completion of in-class exercises and participation in activities;
 Demonstration of very good mastery of key concepts, and of very high ability to analyse data and sociolinguistic issues.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Completion of in-class exercises and participation in activities;
 Demonstration of good mastery of key concepts, and of good ability to analyse data and sociolinguistic issues.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Completion of in-class exercises and participation in class activities;
 Demonstration of adequate mastery of key concepts, and of average ability to analyse data and sociolinguistic issues.

Marginal (D)

Incompletion of in-class exercises and inactive participation in activities;
 Marginal mastery of key concepts;
 Data/sociolinguistic issue analysis with inaccuracy.

Failure (F)

Incompletion of in-class exercises and no participation in activities;
Unable to master key concepts;
Unable to analyse data and sociolinguistic issues.

Assessment Task

2. Group Project

Criterion

Originality, relevance, accuracy and clarity, fluency in writing.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

1. Demonstration of excellent command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of sociolinguistics.
2. Excellent application of concepts and theories taught in class.
3. Excellent analyses of speech data collected or provided.
4. Demonstration of excellent analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities and creativity.
5. Excellent content, presentation, organisation and style in writing.

Good (B+, B, B-)

1. Demonstration of good command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of sociolinguistics.
2. Good application of concepts and theories taught in class.
3. Good analyses of speech data collected or provided.
4. Demonstration of good analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities and creativity.
5. Good content, presentation, organisation and style in writing.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

1. Demonstration of adequate command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of sociolinguistics.
2. Adequate application of concepts and theories taught in class.
3. Adequate analyses of speech data collected or provided.
4. Demonstration of Adequate analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities and creativity.
5. Adequate content, presentation, organisation and style in writing.

Marginal (D)

1. Demonstration of marginal command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of sociolinguistics.
2. Marginal application of concepts and theories taught in class.
3. Marginal analyses of speech data collected or provided.
4. Demonstration of marginal analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities and creativity.
5. Marginal content, presentation, organisation and style in writing.

Failure (F)

Fail to meet most or all the criterion.

Assessment Task

3. Examination

Criterion

Accuracy and clarity in analysis, organization and fluency in writing

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

1. Demonstration of excellent command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of sociolinguistics.
2. Excellent application of concepts and theories taught in class.
3. Excellent analyses of speech data provided.

4. Demonstration of excellent analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities.

Good (B+, B, B-)

1. Demonstration of good command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of sociolinguistics.
2. Good application of concepts and theories taught in class.
3. Good analyses of speech data provided.
4. Demonstration of good analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

1. Demonstration of adequate command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of sociolinguistics.
2. Adequate application of concepts and theories taught in class.
3. Adequate analyses of speech data provided.
4. Demonstration of Adequate analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities.

Marginal (D)

1. Demonstration of marginal command of subject matter taught in the course related to the area of sociolinguistics.
2. Marginal application of concepts and theories taught in class.
3. Marginal analyses of speech data provided.
4. Demonstration of marginal analytical, problem solving and evaluative abilities.

Failure (F)

Fail to meet most or all the criterion.

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Language varieties, standard language, dialects, world Englishes, language choice in multilingual communities, code-switching, code-mixing, diglossia, language, culture and cognition, language attitude, language policy, language planning.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Holmes, J. (2008) An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. 3rd edition London: Longman.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Swann, J, Deumert, A, Lillis, T. & Mesthrie, R. (2004) A Dictionary of Sociolinguistics. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
2	Labov, W. (1972) Sociolinguistic Patterns. Philadelphia: U. of Pennsylvania Press.
3	Trudgill, P. (1974) Sociolinguistics. Harmondsworth: Penguin.
4	Wardhaugh, R. (2010) An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. Chichester, West Sussex: Malden.