

Academic year 2019-20

Subject 21807 - Introduction to English

Linguistics

Group 1

# **Subject**

**Subject / Group** 21807 - Introduction to English Linguistics / 1 **Degree** Degree in English Studies - Second year

Credits 6

**Period** 1st semester **Language of instruction** English

### **Professors**

Office hours for students						
Starting time	Finishing time	Day	Start date	End date	Office / Building	
11:00	12:00	Thursday	09/09/2019	20/12/2019	Despatx	
					BD05 / Edifici	
					Ramon Llull	
12:00	13:00	Wednesday	17/02/2020	05/06/2020	Despatx	
					BD05 / Edifici	
					Ramon Llull	
	11:00		Starting time Finishing time Day 11:00 12:00 Thursday	Starting time Finishing time Day Start date 11:00 12:00 Thursday 09/09/2019	Starting timeFinishing timeDayStart dateEnd date11:0012:00Thursday09/09/201920/12/2019	

### Context

English is currently the most widely spoken language in the world, with more non-native speakers than native speakers. It has become a *lingua franca* for business, communication technologies, cultural interchanges and tourism. Because of the importance of English as a world language, it has been widely studied and taught. For this reason, it is important to have an adequate understanding of the language regarding its structure and use to understand the relationships between form and meaning and meaning and context. Therefore, this will be our main concern to be developed in the course **Introduction to English Linguistics.** 

# Requirements

### Recommended

It is *highly recommended* for students enrolling in this course to have a B2+ level in English or above, since the language of the readings, and the lectures, as well as the vehicular language within the classroom will be English (please see the following link for a better understanding of the level B2+: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dNvkGawGqjlmfA6IJmUqNctwFBfsW6\_fe8PYHWGUG8E/edit?%20usp=sharing#gid=946988030). Students with a lower level may still enroll in this course, but they must be aware that their performance *may be penalized* if their use of English is not adequate.

More specifically, students are expected to have a level of English equivalent to that of the English Language course taught in the same semester as this subject. Therefore, the maximum number of serious mistakes

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# **Syllabus**

allowed in the tests and projects presented in Introduction to English Linguistics will be the same as that established in the syllabus of English Language III.

#### **Skills**

### Specific

- \* Knowledge of the different levels of analysis and uses of the English linguistic system to understand the relationships between form and meaning, and meaning and context. (C14)
- \* Knowledge and comprehension of the main contributions from the disciplines related with English Studies (linguistics, applied linguistics, literary studies, cultural studies). (C17)

### Generic

- \* Ability to interpret, analyse, summarise and evaluate information in a critical way. (C3)
- \* Ability to adapt to different professional environments sticking to the legal framework and ethical principles of professional practice. (C9)

### Basic

\* You may consult the basic competencies students will have to achieve by the end of the degree at the following address: <a href="http://www.uib.eu/study/grau/Basic-Competences-In-Bachelors-Degree-Studies/">http://www.uib.eu/study/grau/Basic-Competences-In-Bachelors-Degree-Studies/</a>

### Content

### Range of topics

### 1. THE STUDY OF LANGUAGE

Overview of how linguists approach the study of language. Language as a part of a semiotic system. The modes of language. Language and ideology. Major research traditions in 20th century Linguistics: Structuralism, Formalism and Functionalism. Corpus Linguistics.

### 2. THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENGLISH

The current state of the English language. Genetic classifications of languages. Typological classifications of languages. Why languages change. The nature of language change.

### 3. THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF ENGLISH

Grammatical vs. pragmatic meaning. Speech act theory. The cooperative principle. Language in context. Sociolinguistics and sociolinguistic factors.

### 4. ENGLISH SYNTAX

Formal vs notional definitions. The linear and hierarchical structuring of constituents. Form and function. Word classes and phrases. Clauses, sentences, and clause functions.

### 5. ENGLISH WORDS: STRUCTURE AND MEANING

Varying definitions of meaning. The morpheme. Lexical semantics.

### 6. THE SOUNDS OF ENGLISH



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Speech segments. Suprasegmentals. Introduction to the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).

# Teaching methodology

IMPORTANT NOTE: Mobile phones and other electronic devices are NOT allowed in the classroom. Laptop computers are acceptable ONLY if used for purposes related to classroom activity. No electronic device whatsoever (including computers) is allowed in the classroom during exams/practical sessions, unless otherwise specified by the lecturer (e.g. if the practical session entails use of the internet for pedagogical purposes).

In-class work activities (2.4 credits, 60 hours)

Modality	Name	Typ. Grp.	Description	Hours
Theory classes	THEORY	Large group (G)	Presentations carried out by the teacher.	28
Practical classes	PRACTICAL SESSIONS	Medium group (M)	Students will have the chance to do activities related to the theoretical contents taught by the lecturer and by their own colleagues.	10
Assessment	ORAL PRESENTATIONS	<b>U</b> 1 ( )	Group oral presentations on compulsory articles related to the field.	18
Assessment	MID-TERM EXAM	Large group (G)	Traditional exam in which students will be expected to apply the knowledge they have acquired to practical cases.	2
Assessment	FINAL EXAM	Large group (G)	Multiple-choice test to be done on the official date scheduled by the UIB.	2

At the beginning of the semester a schedule of the subject will be made available to students through the UIBdigital platform. The schedule shall at least include the dates when the continuing assessment tests will be conducted and the hand-in dates for the assignments. In addition, the lecturer shall inform students as to whether the subject work plan will be carried out through the schedule or through another way included in the Aula Digital platform.

# Distance education tasks (3.6 credits, 90 hours)

Modality	Name	Description	Hours
Individual self- study	STUDY TIME	Analysis of compulsory readings, self-study and reflection on the learning process.	65
Individual self- study	FILM SERIES / GUEST LECTURES / PARTICIPATION IN VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT	Students will be fostered to attend a FILM SERIES or LECTURES BY GUEST SPEAKERS on different linguistic aspects organized at the UIB. Alternatively, students may PARTICIPATE IN A FORUM (AULA DIGITAL) to share any piece of news, article, picture or any other curiosity regarding the Linguistics of English.	5
Group self-study	READING	Analysis and oral presentation on articles related to the field.	20

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# Specific risks and protective measures

The learning activities of this course do not entail specific health or safety risks for the students and therefore no special protective measures are needed.

# Student learning assessment

This course offers one single assessment pathway, which includes:

- 1. Mid-term exam (date announced during the first week of the semester).
- 2. Final exam (official date scheduled by the UIB: January).
- 3. Oral presentation. Students will choose the topic (and the assigned date) during the first weeks of the semester.
- 4. Attendance to Film Series / Guest Lectures OR, alternatively, participation in Forum.

Students officially recognised by the UIB as part-time students will follow the same assessment criteria established in Pathway A. The only difference between part-time and full-time students is that the former are not expected to regularly attend or actively participate in sessions.

All students MUST pass both the mid-term exam and the final exam (minimum mark = 5 out of 10). In those cases where the mathematical average is higher than 5 but one of the exams has been failed, the student will have 4.5 in their marks record.

### **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

- (1) If a student fails to show up on the day and at the time established by the lecturer for the exams or midterm assignments, the grade for that exam or assignment will be 0 (zero), in case the student has presented more than 30% of the total assigned evaluation course tasks. Only if the student has presented 30% or less than 30% of the total assigned evaluation course tasks, will the grade be NP. Students will not be allowed into the classroom when the exam has already started.
- (2) If a student fails to show up on the date and at the time established by the lecturer for any activity which is part of the student's assessment programme, they will receive a 0 (zero) grade for this activity. Failure to take an official exam will result in a 'No Presentat' grade. Under no circumstances will the dates and times of the official exams be altered with the only exception of those cases contemplated by the UIB Reglament Acadèmic.
- (3) Article 33 in the Reglament Acadèmic will be applied in cases of cheating, plagiarism, cyberplagiarism or any other fraudulent practice in the process of assessment.

### Frau en elements d'avaluació

In accordance with article 33 of Regulation of academic studies, "regardless of the disciplinary procedure that may be followed against the offending student, the demonstrably fraudulent performance of any of the evaluation elements included in the teaching guides of the subjects will lead, at the discretion of the teacher, a undervaluation in the qualification that may involve the qualification of "suspense 0" in the annual evaluation of the subject".





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#### **ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

Modality Assessment

Technique Oral tests (non-retrievable)

Description Group oral presentations on compulsory articles related to the field.

Assessment criteria In groups, students will be offered a selection of readings on different topics at the beginning of the semester.

Each group will have to read one of the (set of) texts selected and to make an oral presentation following the

guidelines provided in class by the lecturer.

Within the first week of the semester students will be expected to fill in a wiki on Aula Digital committing

themselves to make the presentation of a given topic on the date assigned.

This test cannot be retaken, but students who fail may still pass the course provided that their average is 5 or

Final grade percentage: 15%

#### MID-TERM EXAM

Modality Assessment

Technique Short-answer tests (retrievable)

Traditional exam in which students will be expected to apply the knowledge they have acquired to practical Description

Assessment criteria Traditional exam in which students will have to apply the theoretical notions learnt in class (both taught by the

lecturer and presented by students) to practical cases proposed by the lecturer and to provide both short and

longer answers. Students are not expected to memorize material, but to understand and process it.

Use of English mistakes will be penalized according to the level expected for this course (B2+). More mistakes

than those allowed in the subject English Language III will result in a fail.

A minimum mark of 5 is required in this test so as to pass the course.

Students who fail will have the chance to resit this exam on the official date scheduled by the UIB for this

purpose (February).

Final grade percentage: 40% with a minimum grade of 5

# FINAL EXAM

Modality Assessment

Technique Objective tests (retrievable)

Description Multiple-choice test to be done on the official date scheduled by the UIB.

Assessment criteria Multiple-choice test on the contents taught by the lectured and presented by students in the second half of the

semester. Students are not expected to memorize material, but to understand and process it so as to apply it to

the practical cases referred to in the questions.

The test will include 20 questions (with 4 options). Each wrong answer will be penalized so as to compensate

lucky hits (-0.17).

A minimum mark of 5 is required in this test so as to pass the course.



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Students who fail will have the chance to resit this exam on the official date scheduled by the UIB for this purpose (February).

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Final grade percentage: 40% with a minimum grade of 5

# FILM SERIES / GUEST LECTURES / PARTICIPATION IN VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT

Modality Individual self-study

Technique Observation techniques (non-retrievable)

Description Students will be fostered to attend a FILM SERIES or LECTURES BY GUEST SPEAKERS on different

linguistic aspects organized at the UIB. Alternatively, students may PARTICIPATE IN A FORUM (AULA DIGITAL) to share any piece of news, article, picture or any other curiosity regarding the Linguistics of

English.

Assessment criteria Students will be fostered to attend a FILM SERIES or LECTURES BY GUEST SPEAKERSon different

linguistic aspects organized at the UIB. Alternatively, students may PARTICIPATE IN A FORUM (AULA DIGITAL) to share any piece of news, article, picture or any other curiosity regarding the Linguistics of English.

This activity cannot be retaken, but students who fail may still pass the course provided that their average is

5 or higher.

Final grade percentage: 5%

### Resources, bibliography and additional documentation

### **Basic bibliography**

Aarts, B & McMahon A. The Handbook of English linguistics, MA: Blackwell, 2006.

Finch, G. How to Study Linguistics, GB: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003.

Kortmann, B. English Linguistics: Essentials. Berlin: Cornelsen, 2005.

Meyer, C. Introducing English Linguistics, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Trousdale, G. An Introduction to English Sociolinguistics. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2010.

# Complementary bibliography

Bauer, L. Introducing Linguistic Morphology, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2003.

Brinton, L. The Structure of Modern English, Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing, 2000.

Coulthard, M. An Introduction to Discourse Analysis. London: Longman, 1985.

Crystal, D. *The Cambridge Encyclopaedia of the English language*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995.

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Fennell, B.A. A History of English: A Sociolinguistic Approach. Malden (MA): Blackwell, 2001.

Harley, H. English Words: A Linguistic Introduction. MA: Blackwell, 2006

Holmes, Janet. An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. 2nd edition. New York: Longman, 2001.

Huddleston, R. English Grammar. An Outline. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1988.

Huddleston, R. & Pullum, G. A Student's Introduction to English Grammar. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

Ladefoged, P. & Johnson, K. A Course in Phonetics, Belmont (CA): Wadsworth Publishing, 2010.

Leech, L. Principles of Pragmatics. London: Longman, 1983.

Pinker, S. The Language Instinct: The New Science of Language and Mind, London: Penguin, 1995.

Pyles, T. & Algeo J, *The Origins and Development of the English Language*. 6th edition. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Jovanovich Inc, 2010.

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Swan, M. & Walker, C. How English Works, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997.

Trask, R. L. A Dictionary of Phonetics and Phonology, London: Routledge, 1995.

Yule, G. The Study of Language, (2nd edition), New York: Cambridge University Press, 1996.