# City University of Hong Kong

## Information on a Course
### offered by Department of Linguistics and Translation
### with effect from Semester __A__ in 20<u>15</u> / 20<u>16</u>

**Part I**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Course Title**: | Language and its Applications |
| **Course Code**: | LT5903 |
| **Course Duration**: | One semester |
| **Credit Units**: | 3 |
| **Level**: | P5 |
| **Medium of Instruction**: | English |
| **Medium of Assessment**: | English |
| **Prerequisites**:) | Nil |
| **Precursors** | Nil |
| **Equivalent Courses**: | CTL5901 Language, Cognition and Culture /LT5901 Language, Cognition and Culture |
| **Exclusive Courses**: | Nil |

**Part II**

**1. Course Aims**

This course aims: (i) to establish in students an awareness of fundamentals of natural language such as compositionality, systematicity, creativity and recursivity; (ii) to illustrate manifestations of these defining features of human language in core areas including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics; (iii) to describe the relation between language, people, and society; (iv) to demonstrate the application of science of human language in various aspects of life; and (v) to promote the transfer of knowledge of language and findings of language studies into practice.

Upon completion of the course, students would be able to identify and analyse the human language in general, which is the essential defining characteristic of human beings. Students would also be able to discover, describe, and theorize how language bears on practical aspects of life such as language in use, language technology, and language pedagogy.

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## 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

*Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:*

| No. | CILOs | Weighting (if applicable) |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Discover the basic properties of natural language and how they are related to other aspects of human cognition. | |
| 2. | Describe and analyse the phonetic, phonological, syntactic and semantic properties of natural language. | |
| 3. | Analyse natural language data; identify and explain patterns in language and language use. | |
| 4. | Discover and explain language application in the practical aspects of life | |
| 5. | Theorize how knowledge of human language can contribute to society. | |

## 3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

*(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)*

| CILO No. | TLAs | Hours/week (if applicable) |
|---|---|---|
| 1-5 | Reading – academic books and articles | |
| 1-5 | Lecture – basic concepts and theories, explanation and illustration, in-class analysis of linguistic data | |
| 1-5 | Tutorial – exercises on applying concepts to data analysis; practice of further elaboration of concepts and theories in problem solving activities | |
| 1-3 | Written assignment – practice of data analysis with explanation and argumentation | |
| 1-5 | Group discussion and presentation - reading and assignment projects | |

## 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities

*(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)*

| CILO No. | Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities | Weighting (if applicable) | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1-5 | Written assignments including reading reports, data analysis, or small projects | 40% | |
| 1-5 | Quizzes in forms of multiple choices, short answers, or data analysis | 20% | |
| 1-5 | Final exam: two hours, accumulative test of students' grasp of knowledge covered in lectures, tutorials, and reading materials. | 40% | |

## 5. Grading of Student Achievement:

Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees.

| Letter Grade | Grading criteria in relation to CILOs |
|---|---|
| A+<br>A<br>A- | • Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of the subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base. |
| B+<br>B<br>B- | • Evidence of grasp of the subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of key issues; evidence of familiarity with the literature. |
| C+<br>C<br>C- | • Demonstration of profitable study experience in general; adequate understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the study. |

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| D | • Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to progress without repeating the course. |
|---|---|
| F | • Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited or irrelevant use of the literature. |

## Part III

## Keyword Syllabus

Principle of compositionality, systematicity, creativity, recursivity, phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, applied linguistics, language technology, language use, language pedagogy

## Recommended Reading
**Text(s)**

Aronoff, M., Rees-Miller, J., The handbook of linguistics, 2001. Blackwell Publishers Ltd.
Fromkin, V., Rodman, R. and Hyams, N., *An introduction to language,* 2011. Wadsworth: Cengage Learning.
O'Grady, W. Archibald, J., Aronoff, M., and Rees-Miller, J. *Contemporary linguistics*. 2009. Bedford/St. Martin's.
Pinker, Steven. *The language instinct*. 2001. New York: HarperCollins.

## Online Resources