LT4244: SOCIOLINGUISTICS

Effective Term
Semester B 2022/23

Part I Course Overview

Course Title
Sociolinguistics

Subject Code
LT - Linguistics and Translation
Course Number
4244

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
LT2229 Fundamentals of Linguistics and LT2203 Language In Society

Precursors
Nil

Equivalent Courses
CTL4244 Sociolinguistics

Exclusive Courses
Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to teach students in depth major sociolinguistic theories and key concepts. Students will learn to criticize research outputs in sociolinguistics and tackle sociolinguistic issues qualitatively and quantitatively.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

	CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Describe and discuss major theories and key concepts in sociolinguistics.		x	x	x
2	Analyze language data from a sociolinguistic perspective and discover and formulate hypotheses that are observationally descriptively and explanatorily adequate.		x	x	x
3	Critically review current sociolinguistic research outputs.		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	Lectures	Lectures are for presenting major theories and key concepts. Emphasis will also be put on how hypotheses and theories can be applied to language data in the local context.	1, 2, 3	3 hours

| 2 | Activities and assignments | Students will be asked to practice analysing and discussing sociolinguistic data and issues through assignments and activities both in and outside of class time. These are provided to familiarize students with theories and concepts acquired in the lecture portion of the course. | 1, 2, 3 | |
| 3 | Term paper | Students are required to work on a specific topic in sociolinguistics and summarize their findings in a term paper. | 1, 2, 3 | |

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Activities and Assignments: Activities and assignments require students to analyse and discuss sociolinguistic issues, literature and/or data.	1, 2, 3	30	
2	DEC-Term Paper: Group paper to review a current sociolinguistic study critically.	1, 2, 3	40	

Continuous Assessment (%)

70

Examination (%)

30

Examination Duration (Hours)

2

Additional Information for ATs

Examination
Analytical essay questions will be set to assess students' mastery of key concepts and ability to analyze sociolinguistic problems. Multiple choice may also be included.
(CILO No.1-2)

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

1. Activities and Assignments

Criterion

Demonstrate understanding of course content and ability to analyse and interpret data.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent performance in tutorials and assignments, and ability to analyse and interpret data.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good performance in tutorials and assignments, and ability to analyse and interpret data.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate performance in tutorials and assignments, and ability to analyse and interpret data.

Marginal (D)

Weak performance in tutorials and assignments, and ability to analyse and interpret data.

Failure (F)

Poor performance in tutorials and assignments, and ability to analyse and interpret data.

Assessment Task

2. DEC Term Paper

Criterion

Demonstrate ability to identify a sociolinguistic issue and conduct original group research on this issue.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent understanding of a chosen topic, excellent execution of data collection, excellent analytical skills and excellent content, organization and language of the paper.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good understanding of a chosen topic, good execution of data collection, good analytical skills,and good content, organization and language of the paper.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate understanding of a chosen topic, adequate data collection, adequate analytical skills and adequate content, organization and language of the paper.

Marginal (D)

Marginal familiarity with the chosen topic, weak data collection, weak analysis,and weak content, organization and language of the paper.

Failure (F)

Poor familiarity with the chosen topic, minimal or no data collection, very weak or no analysis,poor content, organization and language of the paper.

Assessment Task

3. Examination

Criterion

Demonstrate knowledge of the subject matter and competence in sociolinguistic analysis.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent mastery of key concepts and ability to analyse sociolinguistic problems.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good mastery of key concepts and ability to analyse sociolinguistic problems.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Adequate mastery of key concepts and ability to analyse sociolinguistic problems.

Marginal (D)

Marginal familiarity of key concepts and ability to analyse sociolinguistic problems.

Failure (F)

Poor familiarity of key concepts and ability to analyse sociolinguistic problems.

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Language, dialects and varieties; pidgin, creole, and lingua-franca; Global World Englishes; bilingualism and multilingualism, : code switching and code mixing; translanguaging; speech community; regional and social variation; variation studies; language, culture and thought; solidarity and politeness; ethnography and ethno-methodology; speech acts; language and gender; language and power; Language planning and language policy; sociophonetics, sociophonology, variationist; language ideology; language and education.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

	Title
1	Crystal, D. (2006) Language and the Internet. 2nd edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2	Downes, W. (1984) Language and Society. London: Fontana.
3	Fasold, R. (1990) Sociolinguistics of Language. Oxford: Blackwell.
4	Holmes, J. (2008) An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. 3rd edition London: Longman.
5	Hudson, R.A. (1996) Sociolinguistics. Cambridge: C.U.P.
6	Labov, W. (1972) Sociolinguistic Patterns. Philadelphia: U. of Pennsylvania Press.
7	Wardhaugh, R. & Fuller J. (2015) An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. 7th edition. New York: Blackwell.
8	Wodak,R., Johnstone, B., & Kerswill, P. (ed.) (2011) The SAGE Handbook of Sociolinguistics. London: SAGE.
9	陳原 (1984) «社會語言學» 香港：商務印書館。
10	鄒嘉彥. 游汝杰 (2001) «漢語與華人社會» 香港：香港城市大學出版社及復旦大學出版社。
11	And journal articles and other reading materials.

Additional Readings

	Title
1	Georgetown: Sociolinguistics Resources :Links to sociolinguistics resources on the web.