



Course Specifications

Course Title:	Sociolinguistics
Course Code:	ENG 477
Program:	Bachelor of Arts in English
Department:	Department of English Language & Literature
College:	College of Languages and Translation
Institution:	Imam Mohammad Ibn Saud Islamic University

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A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours:	2 Hours
2. Course type	
a.	University <input type="checkbox"/> College <input type="checkbox"/> Department <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>
b.	Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Level/year at which this course is offered:	level 8 / Fourth year
4. Pre-requisites for this course	ENG 362
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any):	None

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	24	75%
2	Blended	8	25%
3	E-learning		
4	Distance learning		
5	Other		

7. Contact Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1	Lecture	24
2	Laboratory/Studio	8
3	Tutorial	8
4	Others (Practical sessions, Tests)	24
	Total	64

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

<p>1. Course Description</p> <p>This two- hour credit course covers the basic principles of sociolinguistics. It introduces the undergraduate student to the relationship between language use and its social context to explore how language is used culturally, and how it is affected by society. The course equips students with a set of theories, insights, and skills in the field of social linguistics and explains the way social factors influence communication on both individual and societal levels. The knowledge gained from the theoretical aspects will then be applied to a variety of practical examples from different languages and cultures with a special focus on English. This course also provides an insight of how modern technology has influenced sociolinguistics.</p>
<p>2. Course Main Objective</p> <p>The main objective of the course is for students to gain knowledge of the relationship between language and society by focusing on language variability and the expression of personal, social and cultural factors. The sub-objectives below support the main objective as students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify sociolinguistic concepts such as social scales, situations, domains, style and register. 2. Describe linguistic varieties like standard, vernacular, accent, dialect and style. 3. Relate to language use the social factors such as social class, region, personal identity, gender and age. 4. Analyze linguistic phenomena and issues such as, pidginization, <i>lingua francas</i>, borrowing, diglossia and code-switching. 5. Apply sociolinguistic concepts to daily life. 6. Apply the social factors in the analysis of different societies.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge and Understanding <i>By the end of the course, students will be able to:</i>	
1.1	List the basic terms related to sociolinguistic.	K2
1.2	Define main concepts in the field of sociolinguistics, including the current theories and trends.	K3
1.3	Describe the social factors and their influence on language use.	K4
1.4	Recognize how linguistic varieties, patterns of interaction and social factors effect interactional communication and exchange in societies.	K5
2	Skills <i>By the end of the course, students will be able to:</i>	
2.1	Demonstrate critical thinking skills in discussions of sociolinguistic theory and language use.	S1
2.2	Analyze critically arguments and evidence appropriate to sociolinguistic theory.	S2
2.3	Use problem solving skills to the relevant sociolinguistic concepts, and the social factors that influence language use.	S4
2.4	Generate research papers, reports and assignments using sociolinguistic concepts in English language and other languages.	S5
2.5	Apply appropriate sociolinguistic research methodologies to interpret findings.	S6
2.6	Develop an awareness and appreciation of the philosophical and analytical contexts of sociolinguistics.	S7
3	Values <i>By the end of the course, students will be able to:</i>	
3.1	Demonstrate learner autonomy through class interaction such as questioning, offering feedback and presenting ideas related to the field of sociolinguistics.	V1
3.2	Communicate and work effectively on individual tasks, and collaboratively within teams.	V2
3.3	Demonstrate an awareness of the ethical considerations involved in performing practical course work, research, and assignments in sociolinguistics.	V3
3.4	Demonstrate an ability to carry out independently research in sociolinguistics and making use of the available resources.	V4

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Introduction	2
2	What do sociolinguistics study?	2
3	Language Choice: Social domains, code-switching and diglossia	2
4	Linguistic Varieties: Vernacular Languages	2
5	Linguistic Varieties: Pidgins	2
6	Language Variation and Users Regional variation	2
7	Social variation	2
8	Tutorial and Practical exercises	2
9	Gender variation	2
10	Age variation	2
11	Tutorial and Practical exercises	2
12	Language Variation and Uses Style, context and register	2

13	Style, context and register (cont'd)	2
14	Student Presentations	2
15	Revision	2
16	Revision	2
Total		32

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and Understanding		
1.1	List the basic terms related to sociolinguistic.	Lectures Class discussion Case analysis	Quizzes Assignments Blackboard and in Class Participation
1.2	Define main concepts in the field of sociolinguistics, including the current theories and trends.	Lectures Class discussion	Quizzes Assignments Participation
1.3	Describe the social factors and their influence on language use.	Lectures Class/Online discussion Task-based sessions	Quizzes Assignments Blackboard and in Class Participation
1.4	Recognize how linguistic varieties, patterns of interaction and social factors effect interactional communication and exchange in societies.	Lectures Class/Online discussion In-class exercises Handouts	Assignments Mind maps Exams & quizzes Case study
2.0	Skills		
2.1	Demonstrate critical thinking skills in discussions of sociolinguistic theory and language use.	Lectures Class discussion Case analysis	Exams & quizzes In-class activities Paper
2.2	Analyze critically arguments and evidence appropriate to sociolinguistic theory.	Lectures Class/Online discussion Case analysis	Exams & quizzes Assignments In-class activities
2.3	Use problem solving skills to the relevant sociolinguistic concepts, and the social factors that influence language use.	Class/Online discussion Case analysis Problem-solving exercises	Assignments In-class activities
2.4	Generate research papers, reports and assignments using sociolinguistic concepts in English language and other languages.	Lectures Class/Online discussion Tutorial PPT Presentations	Exams & quizzes In-class activities Paper
2.5	Apply appropriate sociolinguistic research methodologies to interpret findings.	Lectures Class/Online discussion Tutorial	Case study paper Portfolio
2.6	Develop an awareness and appreciation of the philosophical and analytical contexts of sociolinguistics.	Lectures Class discussion Reading and analysis of selections of related articles	Case study Portfolio
3.0	Values		
3.1	Demonstrate learner autonomy through class interaction such as questioning, offering feedback and presenting ideas related to the field of sociolinguistics.	Class/Online discussion Presentations	Self-evaluation Rubric Observation

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
3.2	Communicate and work effectively on individual tasks, and collaboratively within teams.	Pair /Group work Class/Online discussion	Reflective writing paper In-class activities Case study Portfolio
3.3	Demonstrate an awareness of the ethical considerations involved in performing practical course work, research, and assignments in sociolinguistics.	Class/Online discussion Communicating Policies, deadlines and academic commitments	Observation Self-assessment Rubric
3.4	Demonstrate an ability to carry out independently research in sociolinguistics and making use of the available resources.	Tutorial Research sessions Lectures	Research Paper Portfolio

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Group and pair work (in class activities)	Throughout the semester	10%
2	Midterm	8 th	20%
3	Quizzes	Throughout the semester	15%
4	Assignments	Throughout the semester	10%
5	Mind mapping	end of the semester	5%
6	Final Exam	end of the semester	40%
Total			100%

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice:

- Instructors are available during their assigned office hours usually from two to four hours depending on their teaching loads.
- Instructors devote approximately ten minutes at the end of each lecture for receiving students' questions in relation to the latest lecture as well as the student's revision and self-study problems.
- Instructors are assigned one hour for student academic advising.
- Faculty emails are accessible for students.
- Online interaction between instructor and student is available using the university's official online platforms (e.g., Microsoft Teams, Blackboard Learn, Microsoft Kaizala).

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	Holmes, J., Wilson, N. (2017). <i>An Introduction to Sociolinguistics</i> . Fifth edition. Routledge.
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Essential References Materials	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bullet Monaghan, Leila and Jane E. Goodman (2007). <i>A Cultural Approach to Interpersonal Communication: Essential Readings</i>. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell. 2. Scollon, R. & Scollon, S. (2001). <i>Intercultural Communication</i>. 2nd Edition. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing. 3. Danesi, M. (2016). <i>Language, society, and new media: sociolinguistics</i>. New York: Routledge.
Electronic Materials	<p>Journal of Sociolinguistics http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1467-9841</p> <p>https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/language-in-society</p>
Other Learning Materials	Online discussion on Blackboard, Microsoft teams. Smartphone Apps

2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	Classrooms Main Library King Abdullah City Campus Library
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	<p>The university's official cloud server cloud.imamu.edu.sa gives access to faculty and students to multiple Microsoft Office 365 applications such as OneDrive, Teams, SharePoint, Kaizala ...etc.</p> <p>Other resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackboard • Cisco Webex • AV • Data show • E-podium • overhead projector • electronic whiteboard • Internet Access
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Effectiveness of teaching and assessment	Students	Direct
Teaching by the instructor or by the department	Peer Reviewer	Direct
Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes	Conveners / Coordinators	Direct / Indirect
Quality of learning resources	Faculty / Students	Direct / Indirect
Improvement of teaching	Program Leaders	Direct / Indirect

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Standards of student achievement	Faculty	Direct

Evaluation areas (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)

Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	
Reference No.	
Date	