

Department of **English**

University of Cihan Sulimanya

Subject: **General Linguistics**

Course Book - 3rd Year - 2nd Semester

Lecturer's name

Lecturer: Aras Abdulkarim Amin

Academic Year: 2023/2024

Course Book

General Linguistics
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The study of language, Linguistics, language learning, language acquisition, sociolinguistics, discourse analysis

10. Course overview:

This course offers a comprehensive exploration of the fundamental principles and theories of linguistics, focusing on the study of language structure, acquisition, and use. Through a combination of theoretical discussions, empirical research, and practical applications, students will develop a deep understanding of the following key areas:

- 1. **Language and the Brain**: Students will examine the neurobiological basis of language processing, exploring how the brain comprehends and produces language.
- 2. **First Language Acquisition**: The course will investigate the stages and processes involved in first language acquisition, considering various theoretical perspectives and empirical findings.
- 3. **Second Language Learning and Acquisition**: Students will explore theories of second language acquisition and examine factors influencing the learning process, such as age, aptitude, and input.
- 4. **Sociolinguistics**: The course will analyze the relationship between language and society, addressing topics such as language variation, dialects, and language attitudes.
- 5. **Discourse Analysis**: Students will learn to analyze spoken and written discourse, focusing on the structure, coherence, and pragmatics of communication.

Throughout the course, students will engage with a variety of texts, case studies, and multimedia materials to deepen their understanding of linguistic concepts and theories. Emphasis will also be placed on critical thinking, analytical skills, and the application of linguistic knowledge to real-world contexts. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with a solid foundation in linguistics and a framework for further exploration in the field.

11. Course objective:

The objectives of the General Linguistics course aim to provide students with a solid foundation in linguistic theory and analysis, enabling them to critically engage with language-related phenomena and apply their understanding to various academic and professional contexts within the field of English studies.

12. Student's obligation

The students should fulfil the following requirements and obligations:

- 1. Regular attendance to the lectures at the exact time.
- 2. Participating in the daily activity and preparing the items of the given topics before being explained to them.
- 3. Preparing to sudden quizzes.
- 4. Writing reports about certain topics within the field of the subject.

13. Forms of teaching

The following aids are used while teaching the students:

- 1. Lectures
- 2. Discussions
- 3. Seminars
- 4. Technology-Enhanced Learning

14. Assessment scheme

- 1. Quizzes and Examinations
- 2. Daily Activities

15. Student learning outcome:

In the context of a General Linguistics course, student learning outcomes are the following:

- Demonstrate Understanding of Linguistic Concepts: Students should be able to demonstrate a solid understanding of key linguistic concepts, theories, and principles covered in the course, including phonetics, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.
- 2. **Apply Analytical Skills to Language Data**: Students should be able to apply analytical skills to analyze and interpret language data, including spoken and written texts, to identify linguistic patterns, structures, and features.
- 3. **Critically Evaluate Linguistic Theories and Research**: Students should be able to critically evaluate linguistic theories and research findings, considering their relevance, validity, and implications for understanding language structure, use, and acquisition.
- 4. **Communicate Effectively About Language**: Students should be able to communicate effectively about language-related topics, both orally and in writing, demonstrating clarity, coherence, and precision in their expression of linguistic concepts and ideas.
- 5. **Engage in Collaborative Learning and Discussion**: Students should be able to engage in collaborative learning activities and discussions with peers, demonstrating the ability to articulate and defend their perspectives, as well as listen actively and respectfully to others' viewpoints.

- 6. **Apply Linguistic Knowledge to Real-World Contexts**: Students should be able to apply their linguistic knowledge and skills to analyze language use in real-world contexts, such as language variation, language policy, language education, and sociocultural interactions.
- 7. **Reflect on Their Learning Process and Growth**: Students should be able to reflect on their learning process, identify areas of strength and areas for improvement, and develop strategies for continued growth and development in linguistics and related fields.

16. Course Reading List and References:

Holmes, J., & Wilson, N. (2022). An introduction to sociolinguistics. Routledge.

Yule, G. 2014. The study of language. Cambridge University press. US

Trousdale, G. (2010). *Introduction to English Sociolinguistics*. Edinburgh University Press.

17. The Topics:	Weeks
 Language and the brain 	1 st & 2 nd
2. First Language Acquisition	3 rd & 4 th
3. Second Language Acquisition	5 th & 6 th
4. Midterm	7^{th}
5. Sociolinguistics	8 th ,9 th 10 th & 11 th
6. Discourse Analysis	12 th & 13 th Weeks
18. Practical Topics (If there is any)	
No practical topics	

20. Extra notes:

No further notes needed.

21. Peer review

This course book is to a certain extent efficient and may cover all the required topics. The topics contain information which is related to the field of the subject. The cited questions are proper since they are within the scope of the subject and they are also proper to the students.