

Study Abroad Programme

The module description below is from the 2019/20 academic year and is subject to change, and for the use of study abroad students only.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Module name | Sociolinguistics |
| Module code | HC2003 |
| School | School of Health Sciences |
| Department or equivalent | Division of Language and Communication Science |
| UK credits | 15 |
| ECTS | 7.5 |
| Level | 5 |

MODULE SUMMARY

Module outline and aims

The module aims to develop an understanding of the study of language and society. We will investigate the links between language use, social identity and social power. Students will gain an introduction to the basic concepts and approaches within sociolinguistics, as well as state-of-the-art-knowledge of recent sociolinguistic research projects.

Content outline

Sample topics: regional and social accents; language variation and change; language and identity; gender and language; language and ethnicity, language and age.

Pre-requisite Modules

SL1011 Articulatory Phonetics, Phonology and Speech Development

SL1012 Bio-medical sciences

SL1013 Life span studies

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

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On successful completion of this module, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

- evaluate how language variation and choice signals the social identity of speakers, their social relationships and power relationships
- identify the links between language variation, language choice and social context; outline the principles and practices of sociolinguistic research

Skills:

- critically evaluate theory and research methodologies in sociolinguistics;
- appropriately apply key linguistic concepts

Values and attitudes:

- Demonstrate an understanding of how and why speech and language vary
- Demonstrate an appreciation of the different attitudes people hold towards language variation

HOW WILL I LEARN?

Teaching pattern:

| Teaching component | Teaching type | Contact hours (scheduled) | Self-directed study hours (independent) | Placement hours | Total student learning hours |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|---|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Conducting and writing up research | Lecture | 18 | 132 | 0 | 150 |

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|----------------|--|----|-----|---|-----|
| Totals: | | 18 | 132 | 0 | 150 |
|----------------|--|----|-----|---|-----|

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessments

You will be assessed through a written essay (2000 words in length) that will target an area of sociolinguistics studied on the course.

Assessment pattern:

| Assessment component | Assessment type | Weighting | Minimum qualifying mark | Pass/Fail? |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|------------|
| Essay | Written assignment including essay | 100 | 40 | N/A |

Assessment criteria

Assessment Criteria are descriptions of the skills, knowledge or attributes students need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully and Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the skills, knowledge or attributes students need to demonstrate to achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria for module assessments will be made available to students prior to an assessment taking place. More information will be available from the module leader.

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Feedback on assessment

Following an assessment, students will be given their marks and feedback in line with the Assessment Regulations and Policy. More information on the timing and type of feedback that will be provided for each assessment will be available from the module leader.

Assessment Regulations

The Pass mark for the module is 40%. Any minimum qualifying marks for specific assessments are listed in the table above. The weighting of the different components can also be found above. The Programme Specification contains information on what happens if you fail an assessment component or the module.

INDICATIVE READING LIST

Holmes, J. (2008). *Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. London: Longman. (3rd Edition).

Meyerhoff, M. (2011). *Introduction to Sociolinguistics*, Oxon: Routledge (2nd edition)

Trudgill, P. (2008). *Sociolinguistics: An Introduction to Language and Society*, London: Penguin (4th edition).

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