

**The Hong Kong Polytechnic University**

**Subject Description Form**

*Please read the notes at the end of the table carefully before completing the form.*

<b>Subject Code</b>	ENGL1002
<b>Subject Title</b>	Introduction to the Study of Language
<b>Credit Value</b>	3
<b>Level</b>	1
<b>Pre-requisite/ Co-requisite/ Exclusion</b>	None
<b>Objectives</b>	The aim of this course is to familiarize students with the concepts, terminology, and methods of linguistic analysis and enable them to have an understanding of the structure of human languages and the basic principles that underlie it. Comparisons of languages through the analysis of data selected from several languages enhance the students' comprehension of the differences among languages as well as the universal aspects of grammar. After acquiring the concepts in this course, students will be better prepared for higher level courses offered by the department that focus exclusively on phonetics/phonology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.
<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>  <i>(Note 1)</i>	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <p><b>Category A: Professional/academic knowledge and skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a.) Understand and formulate words with the international phonetic alphabet (IPA)</li> <li>b.) Demonstrate familiarity with key phonological principles</li> <li>c.) Construct and deconstruct words based on principles from morphology</li> <li>d.) Conceptualize common syntactic structures of English</li> <li>e.) Identify semantic properties of words and phrases and understand semantic relationships between words</li> <li>f.) Comprehend elementary concepts of pragmatics</li> </ul> <p><b>Category B: Attributes for all-roundedness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>g.) Work creatively, both independently and as a member of a team</li> <li>h.) Demonstrate a global outlook and an awareness of linguistic diversity</li> <li>i.) Learn to think like a linguist (i.e., beyond orthography and surface sentence structures)</li> </ul>

<b>Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus</b>	The following topics will be covered:
--	---------------------------------------

<i>(Note 2)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The properties of human language</li> <li>• Introductions to the following areas of linguistic study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) phonetics (sounds, consonants, vowels, etc.)</li> <li>b) phonology (phonemes, allophones, co-articulation effects, etc.)</li> <li>c) morphology (morphemes, affixes, word formation, etc.)</li> <li>d) syntax (sentence structure, constituency tests, phrase structure trees, etc.)</li> <li>e) semantics (semantic features, semantic roles, lexical relations, etc.)</li> <li>f) pragmatics (context, deixis, presupposition, etc.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
-----------------	--

<b>Teaching/Learning Methodology</b>  <i>(Note 3)</i>	<p>Short interactive activities are incorporated into the lectures at regular intervals. Following the lectures, some class time is devoted to longer interactive activities that allow students to apply the information learned during the lecture to novel contexts. When possible, a secondary focus of these post-lecture activities includes stimulating students' reflections on the new material with respect to its relevance to the languages with which they are familiar.</p> <p>Much of the material, especially the international phonetic alphabet and tree structures, requires active practice in order to acquire it. The classroom activities that supplement the lectures will help to achieve this purpose. In this way, this teaching methodology will help to support the intended learning outcomes.</p>
---	--

<b>Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes</b>  <i>(Note 4)</i>	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)									
			a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	
	1. Assessment 1	25%	✓	✓	✓							✓
	2. Assessment 2	25%				✓	✓	✓				✓
	3. Final Assessment	50%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<b>Total</b>	100%										
<p>Assessments 1 and 2 will test students' knowledge of the linguistic concepts covered in class.</p> <p>The final assessment is a written assignment which requires students to analyze typical language errors from the perspective of some or all of the linguistic areas we have explored in class (i.e., phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.)</p>												

<b>Student Study Effort Expected</b>	Class contact:	
	Lectures	39 Hrs.
	Other student study effort:	
	Class Reading/Preparation	26 Hrs.
	Private Study	60 Hrs.
	Total student study effort	125 Hrs.
<b>Reading List and Reference:</b>	<p>Course Textbooks:</p> <p>Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., &amp; Hyams, N. (2014). <i>An introduction to language</i> (10th ed). Wadsworth.</p> <p>Yule, G. (2017). <i>The study of language</i> (7th ed). Cambridge University Press.</p>	

Updated by Scott Daly, June 2023