



Course Specification

— (Bachelor)

Course Title: Theoretical Linguistics

Course Code: 701/731363-3

Program: BA in English Language

Department: Department of English

College: College of Social Sciences

Institution: Umm Al-Qura University

Version: 3

Last Revision Date: 1445-2023



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A. General information about the course:

1. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 3

2. Course type

A. University College Department Track Others
 B. Required Elective

3. Level/year at which this course is offered: Level 5

4. Course general Description:

This course introduces the study of linguistic, the differences between competence and performance, the components of linguistic knowledge, and the fields of linguistics. This introductory section ends with a brief revision of the history of linguistics in the 19th and 20th century.

The second part of the course introduces several basic concepts that characterize the Chomskyan revolution in linguistics. The goals of linguistic theory are stated. The logical problem of language acquisition is discussed. Mental grammar, universal grammar, descriptive grammars, teaching grammars, and prescriptive grammars are each identified and defined, and then compared, and contrasted. The stages of the development of generative theory are discussed and exemplified starting from 1957 and until the Minimalist Program.

The third part of the course covers lexical and non-lexical approaches to the study of morphology. The introduced theories are evaluated according to the three levels of adequacy.

Finally, Language is presented as a system that consists of a number of subsystems. Each subsystem can be studied individually but must be integrated with the whole system of language.

5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):

(701/731260-3) Introduction to Language 1

6. Co-requirements for this course (if any):

None

7. Course Main Objective(s):

The main objective of the course is to provide students with the knowledge of basic concepts in general linguistics and theories of language study.

2. Teaching mode (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	3 hours per week	100%
2	E-learning		



No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
3	Hybrid <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional classroom E-learning 		
4	Distance learning		

3. Contact Hours (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1.	Lectures	34 hours
2.	Laboratory/Studio	
3.	Field	
4.	Tutorial	
5.	Others: Exams	2 hours
Total		36 hours

B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and understanding			
1.1	Characterize the major periods in the history of linguistics in the 19th and the 20th century.	K1	Lectures, Discussion	Exams In-class questions
1.2	Distinguish the types of grammar	K1	Lectures, Discussion	Exams In-class questions
1.3	Define the three aims of linguistic theory (Chomsky).	K1	Lectures, Discussion	Exams In-class questions
1.4	Distinguish different stages of Generative Grammar	K1	Lectures, Discussion	Exams In-class questions
1.5	Contrast lexical and non-lexical approaches to morphology	K1	Lectures, Discussion	Exams In-class questions





Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.6	Identify the three levels of 'Adequacy' in grammar.	K1	Lectures, Discussion	Exams In-class questions
2.0	Skills			
2.1	Contrast the linguistic approach to the study of language with the traditional one.	S1	Lectures, Discussion	Exams In-class questions
2.2	Analyze examples of systems from the different components of grammar	S1	Lectures, Discussion	Exams In-class questions
2.3	Use the correct linguistic terminology in the analysis.	S1	Lectures, Discussion	Exams In-class questions
2.4	Differentiate types of grammar.	S1	Lectures, Discussion	Exams In-class questions assignments
3.0	Values, autonomy, and responsibility			
3.1	Apply the codes of ethics in using information resources in the field.	V2	Draw students' attention to main concepts of citation and academic arguments	In-class questions assignments

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1.	Introduction: a brief history of the study of language	4
2.	Aims of linguistic theory: Competence and performance	4
3.	Grammar Types, Language Acquisition and Language Use	4
4.	The development of generative theory	9
5.	The Minimalist Program	4
6.	Lexical and non-lexical Approaches to Morphology	3
7.	Language as a System of Systems	3
8.	Levels of adequacy	3
9.	Exams	2
Total		36



D. Students Assessment Activities

No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1.	Midterm Exam	Week 7	30%
2.	Assignment	Week 10	10%
3.	Final Exam	Final Exam Period	60%

*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.).

E. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. References and Learning Resources

Essential References	<p>Dinnen, Francis. 1967. An Introduction to General Linguistics. Georgetown University Press: Washington, D. C.</p> <p>Finch, Geoffrey. 2005. Key Concepts in Language and Linguistics. England: Macmillan.</p> <p>Fromkin, Victoria (ital.) 2009. Linguistics: An Introduction to Linguistic Theory.</p> <p>Smith, Neil and Deirde Wilson. 1979. Modern Linguistics: The results of Chomsky's Revolution. Indiana University Press: Bloomington and London.</p> <p>Trask, R.L. 2003. A Student's Dictionary of Language and Linguistics. London: Arnold</p>
Supportive References	
Electronic Materials	
Other Learning Materials	

2. Required Facilities and equipment

Items	Resources
<p style="text-align: center;">facilities</p> <p>(Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms, simulation rooms, etc.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Classrooms</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Technology equipment</p> <p>(projector, smart board, software)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Data Projector</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Other equipment</p> <p>(depending on the nature of the specialty)</p>	





F. Assessment of Course Quality

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of teaching	Students	Survey (Indirect)
Effectiveness of Students assessment	Peer Reviewer	Sample of exam papers and Peer review form (Indirect)
Quality of learning resources	Students	Survey (Indirect)
The extent to which CLOs have been achieved	Course Instructor	Exams and assignments (Direct)
Other		

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

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

G. Specification Approval

COUNCIL /COMMITTEE	DEPARTMENT COUNCIL
REFERENCE NO.	424040414453/ 132022
DATE	07 RABI- II 1445- 22 OCTOBER 2023

