

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	FROM SOUND TO MEANING		
MODULE CODE	LG1102 (L4)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK / 10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT		

MODULE AIMS

The aims of this module are to:

- Introduce students to the broad ranging subject that is linguistics, to the systemic components of language, and to the many different directions from which language can be studied
- Introduce students to Semantics, Pragmatics, Morphology and Phonetics.
- Promote an understanding of how verbal and non-verbal communication systems operate

MODULE CONTENT

This introductory module seeks primarily to acquaint students with the notion that linguistics is a large, ever-developing area with many sub-disciplines and as such, this is not an exhaustive account of all the topics that may be covered but an indication of the general flavour of discussion that will be addressed in the lectures. It explores a range of diverse linguistic topics, with a more targeted focus on Semantics (including a discussion of what a 'word' is and sense relations between words), Morphology (including word-formation processes such as inflection and derivation; morphological tree diagrams and productivity), Pragmatics (including speech acts; presupposition; Grice's Co-operative Principle; and Politeness and Impoliteness theory) and Phonetics (including principal articulatory phonetic mechanisms; basic articulatory and acoustic characteristics of phones; articulatory classification of phone types; sounds of the International Phonetic Alphabet).

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:	
1.	Discuss and describe some of the many topics, areas, and sub-disciplines that are captured under the umbrella term of 'linguistics'
2.	Interpret IPA transcriptions.
3.	Demonstrate understanding of key phonetic notions.
4.	Classify phones (presented by means of their IPA symbol) on the basis of their articulatory properties.
5.	Examine words of the language by means of Morphological analysis, understanding the nature of word formation (including unconventional word formation processes), affixes, inflection and derivation, compounding and language productivity.
6.	Demonstrate an understanding of Semantics (the study of meaning)
7.	Demonstrate an understanding of Pragmatics (the study of contextual meaning)
8.	Demonstrate understanding of the relationship between the various topics, areas, and sub-disciplines involved in the study of linguistics.

TEACHING METHODS

The module will employ formal lectures which may also include discussion, question/answer sequences, and problem-solving activities, as well as theoretical engagement with, and critical application of the ideas introduced.

In common with other English modules, this module is designed to foster an active, participatory, independent approach to learning, to develop critical faculties and to consolidate and develop written and oral communication skills. Students will obtain co-operative skills during classroom discussions, including the ability to engage in critical debate while showing respect for others. They will also develop problem-solving skills, the ability to manage time and work to deadlines and will be encouraged to adopt reflective practices.

We keep very clear records of attendance and are keen to encourage students to attend their sessions: attendance at taught sessions will enable students to develop the key skills needed to progress on to the next stage of their career. Students should remember that employers expect their employees to keep to agreed hours in work, and we consider ourselves to be offering students a professional approach to develop good employability skills. Managing time effectively now will be of significant benefit in their future careers.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through an in-class test (100%).