

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH SYNTAX AND PHONOLOGY		
MODULE CODE	LG1221 (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 study of language
- Introduce students to the systemic components of language and to the many different directions from which language can be studied.
- Ensure that students have an acquaintance with basic knowledge on morphology, syntax, semantics, phonetics, sociolinguistics, language acquisition and language processing.

MODULE CONTENT

This module introduces students to the study of language. It addresses the question of what is (not) language. It explores whether animal communication should be considered human language and identifies the properties of human language. The module further addresses the notion of grammar and what this involves: the system of sounds, the structure and the meaning of the lexical elements and the ways in which these elements are combined establishing semantic relationships and producing meaning. The module provides students with basic knowledge on morphology (including the rules of word formation and the difference between derivational and inflectional morphology). It also provides students with an overview of what the syntax rules do and introduces them to the syntactic categories and basic elements of syntactic analysis such as constituents. The module also introduces students to the study of sounds (phonetics) and the study of meaning, focusing on basic semantic rules and lexical semantics. It explores how language is acquired and how it is processed in the human brain. It also provides students with basic knowledge on sociolinguistics (synchronic language variation, sociolects, language attitudes) and language change.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:	
1.	Demonstrate an understanding of the nature of human language
2.	Show knowledge of basic concepts in the area of morphology, syntax, semantics and phonetics
3.	Demonstrate an understanding of how language is acquired and processed
4.	Demonstrate knowledge of basic notions in the field of sociolinguistics and language change

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 you to attend your session: attendance at taught sessions will enable you to develop the key skills you need to progress on to the next stage of your career. You should remember that employers expect you to keep to agreed hours in work,

and we consider ourselves to be offering you a professional approach to develop good employability skills. Managing your time effectively now will be of significant benefit to you in your future.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through 2 in-class tests (2 x 50%).