

## MODULE DESCRIPTOR

<b>MODULE TITLE</b>	LANGUAGE VARIATION IN SOCIETY		
<b>MODULE CODE</b>	LG1103 (L4)	<b>CREDIT VALUE</b>	20 UK CREDITS / <u>10 ECTS</u>
<b>SCHOOL</b>	SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT		

### MODULE AIMS

The aims of this module are to:

- Introduce key themes from socially-minded areas of linguistics and help students develop the basic skills and knowledge required to tackle Level 5 linguistics modules successfully
- Make students aware of the existence of linguistic variation in society and help them identify the social and contextual factors that contribute to diversity in language use
- Introduce student to the idea that language use can reflect, influence, and construct meanings and identities
- Encourage students to reflect on their own linguistic practices, memberships to linguistic communities, and language attitudes
- Enable students to conduct research in socially-minded areas of linguistics

### MODULE CONTENT

**Indicative syllabus content:**

This module covers a range of key themes associated with socially-minded areas of linguistics, including sociolinguistics. Students are introduced to the types and significance of variation in society, and explore regional variation, bilingualism and multilingualism, sign language and the deaf community, diglossia and code-switching, pidgins and creoles, language and gender, and variation due to age, education, occupation, social class and register.

### INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

**On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:**

1. Discuss key themes in socially-minded and critical areas of linguistics which will enable the student to successfully study Level 5 modules
2. Show awareness of the social, cultural and contextual variables that lead to diversity in language use
3. Apply theoretical perspectives and methods of analysis to appropriate data
4. Reflect on their own linguistic practices and identify the factors that influence their language use in a variety of texts and social situations
5. Produce writing of acceptable standard (as detailed in the English Language and Linguistics study skills handbook)

### TEACHING METHODS

The module employs a blended learning approach: classroom teaching (interactive lectures and workshop seminars) build on independent study (homework, online learning). Students also learn through doing, through peer observation, and through reflecting on these activities. 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 manage time and work to deadlines and will be encouraged to adopt reflective practices.

### ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through one Portfolio of tasks, with some individual choice of content.