APPL912

Language, Learning and Community

S1 Online 2019

Dept of Linguistics

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General Information

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Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MAppLing or MAppLingTESOL or MTransInterMAppLingTESOL

Corequisites
Co-badged status
Unit description This unit is concerned with the study of language and language learning from a social perspective. It provides a historical perspective on the development of social understandings of language, and on the social/cognitivist divide in linguistics in the mid-twentieth century. Language and language learning are studied as collective, interpersonal processes, and the role of the brain in these social processes is also considered. The nature of 'community' is examined from anthropological and sociological perspectives, and the relations between language, learning, and community are explored.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Explain the historical development of social theories of language and language learning

Explain the differences between social and cognitive perspectives on language learning

Identify a range of factors important to the development of language in the individual, including relations between biological (the human body and brain) and social (family and group) factors

Explain how individual-group relations are linguistically constructed and mediated

Discuss the implications of the social aspects of language learning for language policy at institutional, local, and/or national levels

General Assessment Information

How to apply for a late submission of an assignment

All requests for special consideration, including extensions, must be submitted via ASK.mq.edu.au and provide suitable supporting documentation

Late Assignment Submission

- Late submissions without an extension will receive a penalty of 5% of the total mark available for the assignment per day
- Late submission of an assignment without an extension will not be permitted after marks

have been released to the rest of the class.

- Extensions will only be given in special circumstances, and can be requested by completing the Special Consideration request at ask.mq.edu.au and providing the requisite supporting documentation.
- For more information on Special Consideration, see the university website https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration
- Assignments submitted after the deadline, regardless of the reason, will be marked and returned at a date determined by the unit convenor.

Extensions cannot continue beyond the start of the following semester, and students should be aware that long extensions may impact graduation dates.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Assignment One	5%	No	Weeks 2, 4, 6, 10, 12
Assignment Two	45%	No	Monday, May 6th, 11.59pm
Assignment Three	50%	No	Tuesday, Jun 11th, 11.59pm

Assignment One

Due: **Weeks 2, 4, 6, 10, 12**
Weighting: **5%**

Participate in the online discussions on the iLearn site.

The goal of these discussions is to provide a structured forum for you to exchange ideas and opinions on the unit content and relevant issues with your fellow students.

The 5% grade is for participation. The content of your contributions is not graded.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the historical development of social theories of language and language learning
- Explain the differences between social and cognitive perspectives on language learning
- Identify a range of factors important to the development of language in the individual, including relations between biological (the human body and brain) and social (family and group) factors
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Assignment Two

Due: **Monday, May 6th, 11.59pm**
Weighting: **45%**

Essay on Language and Community. Task to be posted on APPL912 iLearn site.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the historical development of social theories of language and language learning
- Identify a range of factors important to the development of language in the individual, including relations between biological (the human body and brain) and social (family and group) factors
- Explain how individual-group relations are linguistically constructed and mediated
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Assignment Three

Due: **Tuesday, Jun 11th, 11.59pm**
Weighting: **50%**

Discussion of language learning and reflection on a specific context. Task to be posted on APPL912 iLearn site.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the historical development of social theories of language and language learning
- Explain the differences between social and cognitive perspectives on language learning
- Identify a range of factors important to the development of language in the individual, including relations between biological (the human body and brain) and social (family and group) factors
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Delivery and Resources

The learning and teaching strategies used in this Unit are face-to-face sessions (for on-campus students); interaction with materials on iLearn; online discussions; and self-study of course readings. On-campus sessions are recorded and made available to distance students. The course lecturer will be contactable through email to answer any queries that might arise.

It is expected that students in this unit will read all set readings, participate in group discussions and go beyond the required readings to follow the academic literature in specific areas of interest

to them.

The reading material for this unit spans a variety of disciplines, including Applied Linguistics, Linguistics, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology, and Biology. Some of the material will be in areas unfamiliar to many students, and may be challenging.

Unit Schedule

The content covers three broad areas (in this order): **Community**, **Language**, and **Learning**.

Provisional topics are listed below, but some of these specific topics may change and the order of the topics may change slightly.

- Language, context and identity
- Discourse communities
- Speech communities
- Disciplinary communities
- Language as a social sign system
- Language functioning in context
- Language gene or language-ready brain?
- Language as a Complex Adaptive System
- Language and the brain
- Learning in context
- Learning to mean
- Complexity, ecology and language learning
- Timescales

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy (***Note:*** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4*

December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

How to apply for a late submission of an assignment

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Late Assignment Submission

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- For more information on Special Consideration, see the university website https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration
- Assignments submitted after the deadline, regardless of the reason, will be marked and returned at a date determined by the unit convenor.

Extensions cannot continue beyond the start of the following semester, and students should be aware that long extensions may impact graduation dates.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify a range of factors important to the development of language in the individual, including relations between biological (the human body and brain) and social (family and group) factors

- Discuss the implications of the social aspects of language learning for language policy at institutional, local, and/or national levels

Assessment tasks

- Assignment One
- Assignment Two
- Assignment Three

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Explain the historical development of social theories of language and language learning
- Explain the differences between social and cognitive perspectives on language learning
- Identify a range of factors important to the development of language in the individual, including relations between biological (the human body and brain) and social (family and group) factors
- Explain how individual-group relations are linguistically constructed and mediated
- Discuss the implications of the social aspects of language learning for language policy at institutional, local, and/or national levels

Assessment tasks

- Assignment One
- Assignment Two
- Assignment Three

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Explain the historical development of social theories of language and language learning

- Explain the differences between social and cognitive perspectives on language learning
- Identify a range of factors important to the development of language in the individual, including relations between biological (the human body and brain) and social (family and group) factors
- Explain how individual-group relations are linguistically constructed and mediated
- Discuss the implications of the social aspects of language learning for language policy at institutional, local, and/or national levels

Assessment tasks

- Assignment One
- Assignment Two
- Assignment Three

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Explain the historical development of social theories of language and language learning
- Explain the differences between social and cognitive perspectives on language learning
- Identify a range of factors important to the development of language in the individual, including relations between biological (the human body and brain) and social (family and group) factors
- Explain how individual-group relations are linguistically constructed and mediated
- Discuss the implications of the social aspects of language learning for language policy at institutional, local, and/or national levels

Assessment tasks

- Assignment One
- Assignment Two
- Assignment Three

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual

formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Explain the historical development of social theories of language and language learning
- Explain the differences between social and cognitive perspectives on language learning
- Identify a range of factors important to the development of language in the individual, including relations between biological (the human body and brain) and social (family and group) factors
- Explain how individual-group relations are linguistically constructed and mediated
- Discuss the implications of the social aspects of language learning for language policy at institutional, local, and/or national levels

Assessment tasks

- Assignment One
- Assignment Two
- Assignment Three

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Discuss the implications of the social aspects of language learning for language policy at institutional, local, and/or national levels

Assessment tasks

- Assignment One
- Assignment Two
- Assignment Three