LING1109

Language, Culture and Communication

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2023

Department of Linguistics

Contents

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Tutor
Ernest Akerejola-Eminefo
ernest.akerejola@mq.edu.au
Contact via email

Convenor
Tricia Daly
tricia.daly@mq.edu.au
Contact via Email (first contact)

Convenor
Maria Herke
maria.herke@mq.edu.au
Contact via Email (second contact)

Tutor
Emily Kecman
emily.kecman@mq.edu.au
Contact via Email

Credit points
10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit investigates language through issues the major linguists have asked over the last century. These questions begin with: what counts as a sign and how sign systems begin in a community, but organise the brain of the individual. We track the emergence of language in the child and variations of language which are a consequence of new pressures to act, talk, and think throughout our social networks. The unit also examines the variation of languages across 'language families', and the extent to which linguistic tools can be applied in diverse areas of cultural analysis - from electronic channels to verbal art. We consider the power of language by looking at the relationship of language to the ideologies of everyday experience, as well as those that are actively produced and maintained by powerful groups with vested interests.

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:

ULO1: Describe basic principles in the study of language as a meaning making system

ULO2: Recognize and analyse patterns in language

ULO3: Relate these patterns to what language is doing for its speakers in a given social and cultural context

ULO4: Understand key vectors of variation in language: code, register, dialect, typological variation

ULO5: Understand how language grows and develops in human cultures and within the individual

ULO6: Select and apply basic tools and techniques for the study of language data

ULO7: Make judgments about the social and cultural implications of linguistic patterns in natural language data

General Assessment Information

Use of Generative AI

Please refer to instructions from your lecturer on using and acknowledging the use of Generative AI in your submitted assignments.

Tutorial Task 1

Due: Friday of Week 7 - Weighting: 15%

Tutorial preparation, participation and task completion/submission constitute 15% of the overall mark for this unit. Each week, you must read an article and do a task in preparation for the tutorial. You must bring notes on the reading and the task for discussion in the tutorial. The mark will take into account not only the work submitted but student participation and contribution in the tutorials.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Describe basic principles in the study of language as a meaning-making system
- Recognize and analyse patterns in language
- Relate these patterns to what language is doing for its speakers in a given social and cultural context
- Select and apply basic tools and techniques for the study of language data
- Make judgments about the social and cultural implications of linguistic patterns in natural language data

Tutorial Task 2

Due: Friday of Week 12 - Weighting: 15%

Tutorial preparation, participation and task completion/submission constitute 15% of the overall mark for this unit. Each week you are required to read an article and do a task in preparation for the tutorial. You bring notes on the reading and the task for discussion in the tutorial. The mark will take into account not only the work submitted but student participation and contribution in the tutorials.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Describe basic principles in the study of language as a meaning-making system
- Recognize and analyse patterns in language
- Relate these patterns to what language is doing for its speakers in a given social and cultural context
- Select and apply basic tools and techniques for the study of language data
- Make judgments about the social and cultural implications of linguistic patterns in natural language data
- Understand key vectors of variation in language: code, register, dialect, typological variation
- Select and apply basic tools and techniques for the study of language data

Module Study

Due: Friday of Week 13 - Weighting: 40%

Please refer to the Assessment tab for detailed instructions.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Recognize and analyse patterns in language
- Select and apply basic tools and techniques for the study of language data
- Make judgments about the social and cultural implications of linguistic patterns in natural language data

EXAMINATION

Due: Week 14 - Weighting: 30%

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- Describe basic principles in the study of language as a meaning-making system
- Recognize and analyse patterns in language
- Relate these patterns to what language is doing for its speakers in a given social and cultural context
- Select and apply basic tools and techniques for the study of language data
- Make judgments about the social and cultural implications of linguistic patterns in natural language data
- Understand key vectors of variation in language: code, register, dialect, typological variation
- Select and apply basic tools and techniques for the study of language data

LATE SUBMISSIONS

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (OF THE TOTAL POSSIBLE MARK) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a grade of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical concern.

For example:

Number of days (hours) late	Total Possible Marks	Deduction	Raw mark	Final mark
1 day (1-24 hours)	100	5	75	70
2 days (24-48 hours)	100	10	75	65
3 days (48-72 hours)	100	15	75	60
7 days (144-168 hours)	100	35	75	40
>7 days (>168 hours)	100	-	75	0

For any late submissions of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for Special Consideration.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Tutorial tasks/preparation	30%	No	Week 7 and Week 12
Module study	40%	No	Week 13
Timetabled on-campus invigilated exam	30%	No	Week 14

Tutorial tasks/preparation

Assessment Type [1]: Field work task
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 18 hours
Due: **Week 7 and Week 12**
Weighting: **30%**

Tutorial preparation, participation and task completion/submission constitutes 30% of the overall mark for this unit. Each week students are required to read an article, and do a task in preparation for the tutorial. Students bring notes on the reading and the task for discussion in the tutorial. These tasks are submitted for marking at two points in the semester: end of week 7, and end of week 12. Students receive a mark out of 15 on each of these submissions. The mark will take account not only of the work submitted, but of student participation and contribution in the tutorials.

On successful completion you will be able to:
• Describe basic principles in the study of language as a meaning making system
• Recognize and analyse patterns in language
• Relate these patterns to what language is doing for its speakers in a given social and cultural context
• Understand key vectors of variation in language: code, register, dialect, typological variation
• Understand how language grows and develops in human cultures and within the individual

- Select and apply basic tools and techniques for the study of language data
- Make judgments about the social and cultural implications of linguistic patterns in natural language data

Module study

Assessment Type [1]: Case study/analysis
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 40 hours
Due: **Week 13**
Weighting: **40%**

Data collection, analysis and interpretation (1500 words), based on a topic that set by the student.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Describe basic principles in the study of language as a meaning making system
- Recognize and analyse patterns in language
- Relate these patterns to what language is doing for its speakers in a given social and cultural context
- Understand key vectors of variation in language: code, register, dialect, typological variation
- Understand how language grows and develops in human cultures and within the individual
- Select and apply basic tools and techniques for the study of language data
- Make judgments about the social and cultural implications of linguistic patterns in natural language data

Timetabled on-campus invigilated exam

Assessment Type [1]: Examination
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 18 hours
Due: **Week 14**
Weighting: **30%**

Exam consisting of two parts: short answer questions, and one long answer.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe basic principles in the study of language as a meaning making system

- Recognize and analyse patterns in language

- Relate these patterns to what language is doing for its speakers in a given social and cultural context

- Understand key vectors of variation in language: code, register, dialect, typological variation

- Understand how language grows and develops in human cultures and within the individual

- Select and apply basic tools and techniques for the study of language data

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[1] If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment

- the Writing Centre for academic skills support.

[2] Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

UNIT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

- You should spend an average of 12 hours per week on this unit. This includes listening to lectures before the tutorial, reading weekly required materials detailed in iLearn, participating in Ilearn discussion forums and preparing assessments.

- Students are expected to attend all tutorial sessions.

- In most cases, students are required to attempt and submit the major assessment tasks to pass the unit.

REQUIRED READINGS

- The citations for this unit's required readings are available to enrolled students through the unit iLearn site and at Macquarie University's library site. Electronic copies of required readings may be accessed through the library or will be made available by other means.

TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

- Computer and internet access are essential for this unit. Basic computer skills and skills in word processing are also a requirement.
- This unit has an online presence. Login is via: https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/
- Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the Internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.
- Information about IT used at Macquarie University is available at http://students.mq.edu.au/it_services/

SUBMITTING ASSESSMENT TASKS

- All text-based assessment tasks are to be submitted, marked and returned electronically. This will only happen through the unit iLearn site.
- Assessment tasks must be submitted as an MS Word document by the due date.
- Most assessment tasks will be subject to a 'TurnitIn' review as an automatic part of the submission process.
- The granting of extensions is subject to the university's Special Consideration Policy. Extensions will not be granted by unit conveners or tutors but must be lodged through Special Consideration: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration

WORD LIMITS FOR ASSESSMENT TASKS

- Stated word limits include footnotes and footnoted references but not a bibliography or title page.
- Word limits can generally deviate by 10% over or under the stated figure.
- If the number of words exceeds the limit by more than 10%, then penalties will apply. These penalties are 5% of the awarded mark for every 100 words over the word limit. For instance, if a paper is 300 words over, it will lose 3 x 5% = 15% of the total mark awarded for the assignment. This percentage is taken off the total mark, i.e. if a paper was graded at a credit (65%) and was 300 words over, it would be reduced by 15 marks to a pass (50%).
- The application of this penalty is at the discretion of the course convener.

REASSESSMENT OF ASSIGNMENTS DURING THE SEMESTER

- Macquarie University operates a Grade Appeal Policy in cases where students feel their work was graded inappropriately: http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html
- In accordance with the Grade Appeal Policy, individual works are not subject to regrading.

STAFF AVAILABILITY

- Department staff will endeavour to answer student enquiries in a timely manner. However, emails or iLearn messages will not usually be answered over the weekend or public holiday period.
- Students are encouraged to read the Unit Guide and look at instructions posted on the iLearn site before sending email requests to staff.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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
- Assessment Procedure
- Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the search tool.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe academic integrity – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free online writing an d maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- Workshops
- Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader
- Access StudyWISE
- Upload an assignment to Studiosity
- Complete the Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of Student Support Services including:

- IT Support
- Accessibility and disability support with study
- Mental health support
- Safety support to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues
- Student Advocacy provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and

processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via AskMQ, or contact Service Connect.

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.

Inclusion and diversity

Social inclusion at Macquarie University is about giving everyone who has the potential to benefit from higher education the opportunity to study at university, participate in campus life and flourish in their chosen field. The University has made significant moves to promote an equitable, diverse and exciting campus community for the benefit of staff and students. It is your responsibility to contribute towards the development of an inclusive culture and practice in the areas of learning and teaching, research, and service orientation and delivery. As a member of the Macquarie University community, you must not discriminate against or harass others based on their sex, gender, race, marital status, carers' responsibilities, disability, sexual orientation, age, political conviction or religious belief. All staff and students are expected to display appropriate behaviour that is conducive to a healthy learning environment for everyone.

Professionalism

In the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences, professionalism is a key capability embedded in all our courses.

As part of developing professionalism, students are expected to attend all small group interactive sessions including clinical, practical, laboratory, work-integrated learning (e.g., PACE placements), and team-based learning activities. Some learning activities are recorded (e.g., face-to-face lectures), however you are encouraged to avoid relying upon such material as they do not recreate the whole learning experience and technical issues can and do occur. As an adult learner, we respect your decision to choose how you engage with your learning, but we would remind you that the learning opportunities we create for you have been done so to enable your success, and that by not engaging you may impact your ability to successfully complete this unit. We equally expect that you show respect for the academic staff who have worked hard to develop meaningful activities and prioritise your learning by communicating with them in advance if you are unable to attend a small group interactive session.

Another dimension of professionalism is having respect for your peers. It is the right of every student to learn in an environment that is free of disruption and distraction. Please arrive to all learning activities on time, and if you are unavoidably detained, please join activity as quietly as possible to minimise disruption. Phones and other electronic devices that produce noise and other distractions must be turned off prior to entering class. Where your own device (e.g., laptop)

is being used for class-related activities, you are asked to close down all other applications to avoid distraction to you and others. Please treat your fellow students with the utmost respect. If you are uncomfortable participating in any specific activity, please let the relevant academic know.

Unit information based on version 2023.01R of the Handbook