LING1109

Language, Culture and Communication

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2024

Department of Linguistics

Contents

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
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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

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Tutorial tasks/preparation	30%	No	Week 7 and Week 12
Major assignment	40%	No	Week 12
Take home exam during final exam period	30%	No	Week 13

Tutorial tasks/preparation

Assessment Type [1]: Case study/analysis
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 18 hours
Due: **Week 7 and Week 12**
Weighting: **30%**

Tutorial preparation, participation and task completion constitutes 30% of the overall mark for this unit.

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

Major assignment

Assessment Type [1]: Case study/analysis
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 40 hours
Due: **Week 12**
Weighting: **40%**

Data collection, analysis and interpretation, based on a topic set by the student and related to one of the unit modules.

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

Take home exam during final exam period

Assessment Type [1]: Quiz/Test
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 18 hours
Due: **Week 13**
Weighting: **30%**

Take home exam during final exam period

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

[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

This unit consists of a one hour weekly lecture, and a one hour tutorial. Students need to undertake weekly readings and tutorial activities.

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 connect.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 and 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 the Service Connect Portal, 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.

Unit information based on version 2024.03 of the Handbook