

Course Syllabus

- 1. Program of Study** Bachelor of Arts
 Bachelor of Science
 Bachelor of Business Administration
 Bachelor of Nursing Science
- Faculty/Institute/College** Mahidol University International College
- 2. Course Code** ICEG 250 **Course Title** Introduction to Linguistics
- 3. Number of Credits** 4 (4-0) (Lecture/Lab)
- 4. Prerequisite (s)** ICCM 106 or ICCM 112 or the equivalent
- 5. Type of Course** Required for both minors
- 6. Trimester/Academic Year** Trimester I, every year

7. Course Description

Introduction to the major characteristics and components of human language focusing on the power and complexity of language, its influence on interactions and its contributions to understanding; a definition of and lectures on syntax, semantics, pragmatics, and other topics in the field.

8. Course Objective (s)

To introduce students to the primary fields of study within linguistics, with elements both of theory and of practical analysis of language.

9. Course Outline

Week	Topic		Instructor
	Lecture	Hour	
1	Introduction to linguistics: linguistic knowledge; linguistic performance	4	Assigned Section Instructor
2	Language universals; animal language; the human brain; autonomy of language	4	"
3	Phonetics: sound segmentation, articulation, consonants, vowels, classes of	4	"

	sounds; IPA, contrastive features, minimal pairs		
4	Phonetics: phonemic transcription – broad	4	“
5	Syntax: Grammaticality; forms of syntactic analysis, sentence structure	4	“
6	Syntax: Sentence structure rules and analysis; text analysis and commentary, Midterm Exam	4	“
7	Semantics: Word meaning, Phoricity, lexical relations	4	“
8	Semantics: Chains in texts; Pragmatics: conversational maxims	4	“
9	Pragmatics: Speech acts, Politeness and face, language and culture	4	“
10	Pragmatics: Sapir Whorf; Language acquisition: First Language	4	“
11	Language Acquisition: Second language acquisition – learning differences, teaching differences.	4	“
	Total	44	

NB: Instructor reserves the right to change topics when appropriate.

10. Teaching Method (s)

Lecture based for introduction of theoretical issues, followed by practical analysis of naturally-occurring language.

11. Teaching Media

Transparencies, whiteboard, audio recordings, lecture notes

12. Measurement and evaluation of student achievement

MUIC standard grading criteria: 90% and above is grade A

13. Course evaluation

Final exam: 30%
Coursework: 70%

Coursework is to comprise a portfolio comprising two of the following assignments:

1. A broad phonemic analysis of a taped conversation between two people, not less than two minutes in length, with commentary.
2. A syntactic analysis of a stretch of text, not less than 300 words in length, with commentary.
3. A phoric and lexical analysis of a stretch of text, not less than 300 words in length, with commentary.
4. A 3,000 (minimum) word essay on a topic within linguistics. Past topics have included:
 - a. Discuss animal language and communication in detail, contrasting and comparing it with human language.
 - b. Review your experiences of second language learning. Relate your classroom experiences to the theories of second language acquisition covered in the course. Analyze your reactions to the various classes you have attended. Conclude with an evaluation of TEFL methodologies.
 - c. Define and discuss Universal Grammar, reviewing the evidence for its existence.
 - d. Define and discuss the various types of aphasia.
 - e. Review the evidence for and against the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis

14. Reference (s)

Fromkin, V., Blair, D. & Collins, P. (1999). *An Introduction to Language*. Sydney: Harcourt.

Akmajian, A., Demers, R., Farmer, A. & Harnish, R. (1997). *Linguistics: An Introduction to Language and Communication*. Cambridge, MA : MIT Press

These primary sources will be supplemented by selected readings.

15. Instructor (s)

Euan Harvey

16. Course Coordinator

Euan Harvey