

Faculty: Faculty of Foreign Languages

Study program: Bachelor in English Language

Course Title: Language, the individual, and society

Course Credits: 10

Language of Instruction: English

Course Description and goals:

Pragmatics

This module is an introduction to Pragmatics as one of the most vibrant and rapidly growing fields in contemporary linguistics and the philosophy of language. In recent years, it has also become increasingly a central topic in cognitive science, artificial intelligence, informatics, neuroscience, language pathology, anthropology, and sociology. Pragmatics can be broadly defined as the study of language in use. On such concern, the focus will be on crucial topics such as: speech acts, direct and indirect ones, presupposition, maxims and implicature, reference and inference based on deixis, illocutionary acts, and politeness theory and techniques.

Sociolinguistics

This module is an introduction to Sociolinguistics, the study of the relationship between language and society. We will look at how social factors like age, gender, education, occupation, ethnicity, politeness, attitudes, etc.

Course Requirements: For both modules, lectures are optional, but students are required to attend at least 75% of the classes. Students are expected to actively participate in classes, do written assignments and presentations, a midterm and a final exam.

Grading: Active participation, assignments, midterms: 40 points, final exam: 60 points

Course Schedule: Pragmatics: 2 lectures, 2 seminars
Sociolinguistics: 2 lectures, 2 seminars