ET213-30 Linguistics: Structure, Sound and Meaning

20/21

Department
> Applied Linguistics

Level
> Undergraduate Level 2

Module leader
> Christopher Strelluf

Credit value
> 30

Module duration
> 20 weeks

Assessment
> 50% coursework, 50% exam

Study location
> University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module expands on concepts introduced during ET118: Linguistics: Understanding Language in order to provide core knowledge and skills for students in all fields of language study. It aims to:
-Familiarise students with the phonetic, phonological, morphological, syntactic, and meaning systems of the world's languages.
-Introduce methodologies from a range of linguistic disciplines to document, study, and analyse language data.
-Engage students in linguistic analysis within a language and cross-linguistically, both synchronically and diachronically.
-Introduce research about and approaches to subfields of linguistics, such as language acquisition and language change.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The module aims to:

- Provide rigorous instruction in six core domains of linguistics, as established by the UK Quality Code for Higher Education Subject Benchmark Statement: phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics.
- Expand on concepts introduced during ET118: Linguistics: Understanding Language in order to build core knowledge and skills for students in all fields of language study.
- Introduce methodologies from a range of linguistic disciplines to document, study, and analyse language data.
- Engage students in linguistic analysis within a language and cross-linguistically, both synchronically and diachronically.

This module will contribute primarily to the achievement of Course Aims #1, #2, #4 and #7:

1. Provide a thorough grounding in theories and research findings related to intercultural interaction and linguistics.
2. Give students an in-depth understanding and awareness of the nature of generic, discoursal and linguistic features relevant to different cultural and professional contexts.
3. Enable students to analyse cross-linguistic features and contexts, and authentic cross-cultural and intercultural discourses using both quantitative and qualitative methods.
4. Enable students to undertake an in-depth study of issues relating to intercultural linguistics.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Illustrative Weekly Syllabus
Autumn Term –topics include
Comparing and classifying world languages
Morphology
Nouns, pronouns and nominal categories
Verbs, verbal categories and other word classes
Syntax: Coding grammatical relations
Syntax: Alignment and marking
Syntax: Clause types and complex sentences
Morpho-syntactic change

Spring Term
Consonants and vowels
Phonological analysis
Suprasegmental features
Sound change
Perception
Meaning theories and theories of meaning
Reference
Implicature and speech acts
Metaphor

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Upon successful completion of this module, students should understand a number of topics in linguistics. Students should then be able to:• Describe phonetic, phonological, morphological, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic patterns of the languages of the world.• Label phonetic, phonological, morpho-syntactic, and semantic/pragmatic features of languages with disciplinary terminology.• Analyze raw linguistic data to determine features of a language or dialect.• Categorize changes in languages and dialects resulting from language internal and external factors.• Identify physiological structures and psychological factors relevant to language production, perception, and interpretation.• Propose appropriate methodologies to document and study language.• Discuss core theories, findings, and approaches from a range of linguistic disciplines.

Indicative reading list

Brown, P. & Levinson, S. C. 1987. Politeness: Some universals in language usage. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Burridge, K. & Bergs, A. (2016). Understanding language change. Routledge.
Grice, H.P. 1991. Studies in the way of words. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
Haspelmath, M., & Sims, A. (2013). Understanding morphology. Routledge.
Kennedy, R. (2017). Phonology: A coursebook. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Labov, W. (1994). Principles of language change, vol. 1, Internal factors. Oxford: Blackwell.
Ladefoged, P. & Disner, S.F. (2012). Vowels and consonants (3rd edn). Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.
Ladefoged, P., & Maddieson, I. (2008). The sounds of the world's languages (2nd edn). Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.
Lakoff, G. (2002). Moral Politics: How Liberals and Conservatives Think. University of Chicago Press.
Lycan, W.G. (2000). Philosophy of language: A contemporary introduction. London: Routledge.
Payne, T. E. (1997). Describing morphosyntax: A guide for field linguists. Cambridge, U.K: Cambridge University Press.
Tallerman, M. (2014). Understanding syntax. Routledge.
Velupillai, V. (2012). An introduction to linguistic typology. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing.
Whaley, L. J. (1996). Introduction to typology: the unity and diversity of language. London: Sage Publications.

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Research element

-Students complete an independently designed and directed small-scale research project.
-Students work from real-world linguistic datasets compiled from ongoing research.

Interdisciplinary

-Students practice foundational linguistic analysis skills that transfer to branches of psychology, cognitive science, speech pathology, language teaching and learning, literacy studies, and computational language processing and production.

International

-Students engage with datasets drawn from a wide range of languages, increasing cross-linguistic exposure and providing pathways to multilingualism.

Subject specific skills

1. Describe syntactic, morphological, phonological, phonetic, semantic and pragmatic patterns of the languages of the world.

2. Identify physiological structures and psychological factors relevant to language acquisition, production, perception, and interpretation.

Transferable skills

1. Analyse raw linguistic data to determine features of a language or dialect.

2. Categorize changes in languages and dialects resulting from language internal and external factors.

3. Write research-based work in a clear, informative, and structured way.

4. Communicate clearly in oral presentation and academic discussion.

5. Propose appropriate methodologies to document and study language.

6. Label morpho-syntactic, phonetic, phonological, and semantic/pragmatic features of languages with disciplinary terminology.

7. Discuss core theories, findings, and approaches from a range of linguistic disciplines.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	18 sessions of 2 hours (12%)
Seminars	18 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Total	300 hours

Type	Required
Other activity	4 hours (1%)
Private study	242 hours (81%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Reading subject materials
Homework tasks
Assignments
Revision

Other activity description

Revision sessions

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group C3

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
1500 word assignment	25%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			
Assessment component			
1500 word assignment	25%		Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Online Examination	50%		No

- Online examination: No Answerbook required

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Written feedback on the assignment will be provided on the Centre's standard feedback sheets, which conform to Faculty regulations. This will include both summary and detailed feedback. Where appropriate, additional feedback may be provided via personal meetings with the tutor.

[Past exam papers for ET213](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 2 of ULNA-R1Q2 Undergraduate French Studies with Linguistics
- Year 2 of ULNA-R1Q3 Undergraduate French and Linguistics
- Year 2 of ULNA-R2Q2 Undergraduate German Studies with Linguistics
- Year 2 of ULNA-R2Q3 Undergraduate German and Linguistics
- Year 2 of ULNA-R4Q1 Undergraduate Hispanic Studies and Linguistics
- Year 2 of ULNA-R3Q3 Undergraduate Italian and Linguistics
- Year 2 of UETA-X3Q5 Undergraduate Language, Culture and Communication
- Year 2 of UETA-X3Q8 Undergraduate Language, Culture and Communication (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 2 of UETA-Q1R1 Undergraduate Linguistics with French
- Year 2 of UETA-Q1A1 Undergraduate Linguistics with French (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 2 of UETA-Q1R2 Undergraduate Linguistics with German
- Year 2 of UETA-Q1A2 Undergraduate Linguistics with German (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 2 of UETA-Q1A8 Undergraduate Linguistics with Japanese (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 2 of UETA-Q1A4 Undergraduate Linguistics with Spanish (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 2 of ULNA-R9Q1 Undergraduate Modern Languages and Linguistics
- ULNA-R9Q2 Undergraduate Modern Languages with Linguistics
  - Year 2 of R9Q2 Modern Languages with Linguistics
  - Year 3 of R9Q2 Modern Languages with Linguistics

- Year 2 of UPSA-C802 Undergraduate Psychology with Linguistics
- Year 2 of UETA-Q310 in English Language and Linguistics
- Year 2 of UETA-Q311 in English Language and Linguistics (with Intercalated year)

This module is Core option list C for:

- Year 3 of ULNA-R9Q2 Undergraduate Modern Languages with Linguistics