

Academic Year: ( 2022 / 2023 )

Review date: 29-04-2022

Department assigned to the subject: Humanities: Philosophy, Language, Literature Theory Department

Coordinating teacher: PAVON LUCERO, MARIA VICTORIA

Type: Basic Core ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 2 Semester : 1

Branch of knowledge: Arts and Humanities

## OBJECTIVES

The student will be able to:

1. Know and understand the main properties of human language.
2. Know the basic principles of linguistic variation.
3. Understand how languages are classified.
4. Identify prejudices about language, particular languages and their varieties.
5. Know the main linguistic theories developed in the last three centuries.
6. Know the different areas of linguistic analysis.
7. Analyze linguistic data and be able to use them in a linguistic argumentation.

## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

1. Language as a human capacity.
  - 1.1. The internal constitution of languages.
  - 1.2. Characteristics of human language versus other animal communication systems.
2. Language and cognition
  - 2.1. Language and brain.
  - 2.2. The origins of language.
  - 2.3. Language acquisition.
3. Interlinguistic variation.
  - 3.1. Classification of languages.
  - 3.2. Linguistic universals.
  - 3.3. Ecology and linguistic sustainability.
  - 3.4. Language and culture. Linguistic relativism.
4. Intralinguistic variation
  - 4.1. Variation and change in languages.
  - 4.2. Different types of intralinguistic varieties.
  - 4.3. The concepts of language and dialect.
  - 4.4. Contact between languages: pidgins and Creole languages.
5. Problems and methods in linguistic studies.
  - 5.1. Linguistic studies from the nineteenth century to the present day.
  - 5.2. Adequacy, argumentation and explanation in the study of languages.
6. Levels of linguistic analysis.

## LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

The course will consist of Master Classes in which the main theoretical topic of the subject will be presented, and Tutorial Classes where learning activities such as the following will be conducted:

- Comments on the course Reading and related activities.
- Group work on different theoretical aspects of the course and the presentation of the result.
- Exercises to be solved individually.

Moreover, students will be expected to conduct the following autonomous activities: to complete the reading assignments indicated in Master Classes, to participate in the preparation of the group work to be presented in Tutorial Classes, and to individually prepare the exercises prior to each tutorial session.

## ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

|                                                                            |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Reading based activities .....                                             | 15% |
| Exercises solved individually during tutorial classes or out of class..... | 20% |
| Group work on some theoretical aspects of the course.....                  | 25% |
| Final exam.....                                                            | 40% |

Taking part in continuous assessment means that the students attend at least 80% of practical classes and do at least 80% of classwork and homework.

In order to complete the requirements of the course, it is obligatory for the students to take the final exam and to obtain in it at least a grade of 4.

|                                                                             |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| <b>% end-of-term-examination:</b>                                           | 40 |
| <b>% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):</b> | 60 |

## ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- CRYSTAL, DAVID The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language, 3<sup>a</sup> ed., Cambridge University Press, 2010
- CRYSTAL, DAVID A little Book of Language, Yale University Press, 2011
- CRYSTAL, DAVID The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language, Cambridge University Press, 2017 (3<sup>a</sup> ed., 6<sup>a</sup> reimp.)
- GENETTI, CAROL (ED.) How languages work. An Introduction to Language and Linguistics, Cambridge University Press, 2014
- GEOFFREY K. PULLUM The Great Eskimo Vocabulary Hoax and Other Irreverent Essays on the Study of Language, Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, 1991
- KRAMSCH, CLAIRE: Language and Culture, , Oxford University Press, , 1998.
- MCGREGOR, WILLIAM B. Linguistics: An Introduction, Bloomsbury Academic, 2<sup>a</sup> ed., 2015
- ROWE, BRUCE M. y DIANE P. LEVINE A Concise Introduction to Linguistics., Pearson, 2006