

Learning plan (for self-learning) of the course “Language and society”

Information about the course teacher: Teacher:

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Crash course for an interdisciplinary programme designed for students with different backgrounds; the main aim is to equip future students with the basics of linguistics and also “shape” their expectations.

Fully online.

Topic	Learning week	Contact hours for synchronous meetings	Assignments for individual learning
1. Sociolinguistics as a study area and some basic concepts	1	2 hours	Activity 1.1. Prescriptivist attitudes to language Activity 1.2. Prescriptivist attitudes to language (Corpus-based activity) Activity 1.3. Levels of linguistic variation Activity 1.4. Linguistic variables and style: coding the -ing variable Activity 1.5. Studying language change Activity 1.6. Language, dialect and accent Self-evaluation test 1
2. Discourse analysis	2	2 hours	Activity 2.1. Introduction: Studying stylistic variation Activity 2.2. Pragmatics: Politeness strategies Activity 2.3. Pragmatics: Face-threatening acts Activity 2.3. Pragmatics: Cooperative principle illustrated 2 18.00-20.00 Activity 2.4. Ethnography: Application of Hymes' model Activity 2.5. Conversation Analysis: A practical example of the application of conversation analytic concepts Activity 2.6. Conversation Analysis: Repetition Activity 2.7. CDA: Application of Teun van Dijk's dimensions Self-evaluation test 2
3. Language and culture	3	2 hours	Activity 3.1. Can language determine the way we perceive reality? Activity 3.2. Verbal hygiene and politically correct language (corpus-based research) Activity 3.3. Labels used in your community Activity 3.4. Time metaphors across languages Activity 3.5. Summary of evidence in favour of SWH (Sapir-Whorf hypothesis) Self-evaluation test 3

4. Language policy and planning	4	2 hours	Activity 4.1. Official and non-official languages in Europe Activity 4.2. National languages and language planning Activity 4.3. Ethnic minorities in your neighbourhood Activity 4.4. Linguistic landscape of your neighbourhood Activity 4.5. The Language Law of your country of residence Self-evaluation test 4
Final assignment/exam			Final exam

Assessment strategy

Assignments	Weight	Total weight
20-30 practical assignments for individual work	2-3 % each	60 %
4 self-assessment tests	5 % each	20 %
Final Exam	20 %	20 %
Total:		100 %