

| Degree                  | Type | Year | Semester |
|-------------------------|------|------|----------|
| 2500245 English Studies | OT   | 3    | 0        |
| 2500245 English Studies | OT   | 4    | 0        |

## Contact

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## Use of languages

Principal working language: english (eng)

Some groups entirely in English: Yes

Some groups entirely in Catalan: No

Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

## Prerequisites

- Advanced level of spoken and written English.
- A consolidated content knowledge of the structure of English based on the successful completion of courses on phonetics, syntax, and descriptive grammar.

## Objectives and Contextualisation

- To introduce students to the various paradigms for the study of English, to the main research methods in linguistics, and to obtain practical experience in undertaking a short research project.
- To familiarize students with the basic methods of undertaking linguistic research in their area of interest and to make published research more accessible to students.

This course introduces students to the main methods, tools and techniques used in the analysis, interpretation and presentation of linguistic data from research on different aspects of the English language. Topics may include research in the areas of general linguistics, language acquisition, psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics and dialectology. The practical steps involved in carrying out research will be presented and discussed. Participants will be taught how to interpret data published in research journals and will learn to assess the suitability of different research designs to particular research questions.

## Skills

### English Studies

- Develop critical thinking and reasoning and knowing how to communicate effectively both in your mother tongue and in other languages.
- Distinguish and contrast the various theoretical and methodological models applied to the study of the English language, its literature and its culture.
- Generate innovative and competitive proposals in research and professional activities.
- Rewrite and organize information and arguments coming from several sources in English and presenting them in a coherent and summarised way.
- Students have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (normally within their study area) to issue judgments that include reflection on important issues of social, scientific or ethical.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.

- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.
- Utilising new technologies in order to capture and organise information in English and other languages, and applying it to the personal continued training and to the problem-solving in the professional or research activity.
- Working in an autonomous and responsible way in a professional or research environment in English or other languages, in order to accomplish the previously set objectives.

## Learning outcomes

1. Analysing, interpreting and presenting data and results of the student's own or other researches about synchronic English linguistics in academic written or oral English.
2. Apply the acquired knowledge to the generation of innovative and competitive research on a basic level.
3. Applying the acquired methodologies of work planning to work in an environment in the English language.
4. Applying the acquired scientific and work planning methodologies to the research in English.
5. Applying the information in English that is available on the Internet, in databases, etc. to the work and/or research environments.
6. Appropriately summarising the content of scientific sources related to synchronic English linguistics.
7. Communicating in the studied language in oral and written form, properly using vocabulary and grammar.
8. Demonstrate a master of the specific methods of individual academic work that prepare the student for a postgraduate specialised education in the same or a different field of study.
9. Demonstrate a sound knowledge about the topics related to the study of linguistics.
10. Effectively communicating and applying the argumentative and textual processes to formal and scientific texts.
11. Issue appropriate critical assessments based on the comprehension of relevant information about social, scientific or ethical issues related to linguistics.
12. Localising scientific sources in the library or Internet related to synchronic English linguistics.
13. Locating and organising relevant information in English that is available on the Internet, in databases, etc.
14. Mastering the advanced knowledge and scientific methodologies related to linguistics, literature, history and culture that prepare the student for a postgraduate specialised education in the same or a different field of study.
15. Students must be capable of comprehending advanced academic or professional texts in their own language or the another acquired in the degree.
16. Students must be capable of precisely arguing ideas and opinions in their own language or another acquired in the degree.
17. Using various practical models of data collection such as questionnaires, surveys, linguistic corpus, models of fieldwork, case studies, ethnographic methods and experimental designs.

## Content

Topics include the following:

- Overview of areas of study in English linguistics.
- Overview of research methods in Linguistics:
  - qualitative vs. quantitative data ;
  - experimental techniques;
  - observational research (case-studies, surveys and interviews);

- questionnaire design and administration;
- linguistic field research (elicitation techniques, data collection, coding and analysis);
- use of language corpora and online resources.
- Steps in carrying out research:
  - identification of research questions;
  - formulation of research hypotheses;
  - identification and review of relevant literature;
  - selection of appropriate research designs (sampling procedures, methods of data collection, methods of data analysis, instrumentation and measurement, basic statistical concepts);
  - interpretation and presentation of results.
- Formal aspects of research:
  - research ethics;
  - use of citations and bibliographic references;
  - the research report format.

## Methodology

We will explore how research is carried out on a selection of language components of English from different theoretical and paradigmatic perspectives.

- Introduction to each topic by the teacher
- Readings and discussions based on detailed readings that will be provided at the beginning of the course
- Practical exercises carried out as homework or in class; student presentation
- Short research project

## Activities

| Title   | Hours | ECTS | Learning outcomes      |
|---|-------|------|------------------------|
| <b>Type: Directed</b>   |       |      |                        |
| Lectures, class debates and practical exercises                                     | 50    | 2    | 16, 15                 |
| <b>Type: Supervised</b>   |       |      |                        |
| Work on class assignments and the term paper project                                | 25    | 1    | 3, 4, 2, 5, 16, 15, 13 |
| <b>Type: Autonomous</b>   |       |      |                        |
| Specialized readings, preparation for exams and homework exercises and assignments. | 50    | 2    | 15, 13                 |

## Evaluation

## Assessment

- A written test approximately two thirds into the course calendar (40%).
- Assignments and small projects throughout the course (40%).
- Homework and in-class exercises (15%).
- Attendance and participation (5%).

Please note:

- 1) The homework, assignments, and the written exam are OBLIGATORY.
- 2) The minimum mark for an assignment, or the exam to be considered for the average final mark is **5** (out of 10). Students must pass the final exam to pass the subject.
- 3) A student cannot obtain a final mark of No evaluable if he/she has completed up to 40% of the subject.
- 4) The student's command of English will be taken into account when marking all exercises and for the final mark.
- 5) **VERY IMPORTANT:** Partial or total plagiarising will immediately result in a FAIL (0) for the plagiarised exercise (first-year subjects) or the **WHOLE SUBJECT** (second-, third- and fourth-year subjects).  
PLAGIARISING consists of copying text from unacknowledged sources -whether this is part of a sentence or a whole text- with the intention of passing it off as the student's own production. It includes cutting and pasting from internet sources, presented unmodified in the student's own text. Plagiarising is a **SERIOUS OFFENCE**. Students must respect authors' intellectual property, always identifying the sources they may use; they must also be responsible for the originality and authenticity of their own texts.
- 6) In the case of a justifiable absence on an exam day or the day an assignment or other important task is due (for example, because of illness), the student must present the pertinent documentation in order to justify his/her absence, such that a reevaluation opportunity may be given or a possible redistribution of the marks may be considered.

## Reassessment

Only students who have passed at least 60% of the course evaluation can take the reassessment exam or resubmit a paper or an assignment. In practice, students can only resit the final exam or resubmit a limited number of assignments.

## Evaluation activities

| Title  | Weighting | Hours | ECTS | Learning outcomes   |
|--|-----------|-------|------|---|
| Assignments and smalls projects                            | 40%       | 8.5   | 0.34 | 1, 3, 4, 2, 5, 16, 15, 9, 14, 8, 11, 10, 7, 12, 13, 6, 17 |
| Class attendance and participation                         | 5%        | 7     | 0.28 | 16, 10, 7   |
| Exam   | 40%       | 1.5   | 0.06 | 3, 4, 15, 9, 14, 8, 11, 10, 7                             |
| Homework, in-class exercises, participation and attendance | 15%       | 8     | 0.32 | 3, 4, 2, 5, 15, 14, 8, 13                                 |

## Bibliography

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