



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND LANGUAGES

1. Location of the Course			
FACULTY	Arts and Social Sciences		
SCHOOL	Humanities and Languages		
COURSE CODE	Arts 1691		
COURSE NAME	The Use of Language		
SEMESTER	2	YEAR	2013

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3. Staff Contact Details			
Name	Mrs Carmella Hollo	Office	MB 225
Phone	93852813	Email	c.hollo@unsw.edu.au
Contact Time and Availability	Mon 2-4PM, Thursday 1-3 PM		
OTHER TEACHING STAFF			
Name	Dr Efrosini Deligianni	Office	MB 270
Phone	93852188	Email	e.deligianni@unsw.edu.au
Contact Time and Availability	Thursday 4-5PM		

4. Course Details	
Credit Points	UOC6
Summary of the Course	Arts 1691 examines how contemporary linguists deal with issues of language use: the nature of human communication, the influence of social attitudes on language, first and second language acquisition, the historical development of languages, language universals and language typology, regional and situational variation in language.
Aims of the Course	1. This course will enable students to examine the social, psychological, historical and typological aspects of

		language in use.
	2.	The course aims to enable students to develop basic analytical skills in the analysis of language use from the perspective of descriptive linguistics.
Student Learning Outcomes	1.	Explain the social and regional dimensions of language variation
	2.	Explicate the main principles of language change and to recognise the main principles of first and second language acquisition
	3.	Exemplify cross-linguistic variation with reference to language universals and typology
Graduate Attributes		Students will be encouraged to develop the following Graduate Attributes by undertaking the selected activities and engaging with the knowledge content. These attributes will be assessed within the prescribed assessment tasks.
	1.	Understanding of the knowledge base of descriptive linguistics:
	2.	Skills in critical analysis and problem solving skills:
	3.	The ability to engage in independent and reflective learning.

5. Course Timetable			
Class Type/Number	Day	Time	Location
LECTURE	Wednesday	13.00 - 15.00	CLB 6
Class number7215			
TUTORIALS	Thursday	10.00 - 11.00	MB LG2
	Thursday	11.00 - 12.00	MB LG2
	Thursday	13.00 - 14.00	JG LG 21
	Thursday	14.00 - 15.00	JG LG 21
	Thursday		
	Monday	16.00 - 17.00	MAT 230
	Monday		
Monday			
* <i>Course timetables are subject to change without notice. Students are advised to check regularly for updates on the Online Timetable at www.timetable.unsw.edu.au.</i>			

6. Rationale for the Inclusion of Content and Teaching Approach
ARTS 1691 is one of the two gateway courses in the Linguistics Program. Along with ARTS 1690 it provides an introduction to general linguistics, and the foundation on which students can select Level 2 and 3 courses relevant to their interests.

7. Teaching Strategies
The teaching strategies involve lectures and tutorials. The tutorials are designed to foster individual problem solving skills and engagement in collaborative teamwork.

8. Assessment					
Assessment Task	Length	Weight	Learning Outcomes Assessed	Graduate Attributes Assessed	Due Date

4 tutorial quizzes	20 mins each	5% each, 20% altogether	1,2,3	1,2,3,4	See schedule below
Class test	90 mins	35%	1,2,3	1,2,3,4	Lecture time, Wednesday 25 September
Take-home problem set	Short essay and problem sets	45%	1,2,3	1,2,3,4	Week 14, Friday 8 November

- In addition to fulfilling the above assessment requirements, students are expected to attend at least 80% of their lectures and tutorials in order to pass the course.
- All results are reviewed at the end of each semester and may be adjusted to ensure equitable marking across the School.
- Grades
The proportion of marks lying in each grading range is determined not by any formula or quota system, but by the way that students respond to assessment tasks and how well they meet the objectives of the course. Nevertheless, since higher grades imply performance that is well above average, the number of distinctions and high distinctions awarded in a typical course is relatively small. At the other extreme, on average 6.1% of students do not meet minimum standards, a little more (8.6%) in first year courses. For more information on the grading categories see <https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/academiclife/assessment/GuideToUNSWGrade.s.html>
See under "13 Other Information" for more information on Submission of Assessment Tasks and Late Assignments.

***Please note that assessment tasks and schedule are subject to revision.**

9. Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism.

The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how to not plagiarise. Information is available on their website: <http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism/>. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The

penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in a honours thesis) even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here
<http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf>

10. Course Schedule				
	Date	Lecture Topic/Content	Tutorial Content and quizzes	Readings Required
	Week 1 Wed 31 July	1. Introduction; Brain	For content of all tutorials see separate list, to be uploaded in Week 1.	Textbook, Ch 1-2
	Week 2 Wed 7 August	2 Language Acquisition	1.	Ch 8
	Week 3 Wed 14 August	3. Language processing	2	Ch 9
	Week 4 Wed 21 August	4. Language in use	3 tutorial quiz on work from lectures 1-2	Ch 10
	Week 5 Wed 28 August	5. Language in use	4	Ch 10
	Week 6 Wed 4 September	6. Language in use	5 tutorial quiz on work from lectures 3-4	Ch 10
	Week 7 Wed 11 September	7. Language in use	6	Ch 10
	Week 8 1Wed 8 September	8. Historical Linguistics: Universals and typology	7 tutorial quiz on work from lectures 5-6	Ch 11 Finegan, and material provided
	Week 9 Wed 25 September	9 In-class test (lecture!) covering weeks 1-7	8	Ch 11 and material provided
	30 September – 6 October MID-SEMESTER BREAK			
	Week 10 Wed 9 October	10. Historical Linguistics: History of English	10 Monday is a long weekend. Thursday's tutorials are voluntary/revision	Ch 11
	Week 11 Wed 16 October	11. Historical Linguistics	10 -11	Ch 11
	Week 12 23 October	12. Writing Systems	11 tutorial quiz on work from lectures 7-8	Ch 12
	Week 13 Wed 30 October	NA	12	Ch 12 and revision

***Please note that topics of lectures and tutorials are subject to revision.**

1. Tutorials start in Week 2 and deal with material in the preceding lecture.
2. To ensure that students arriving late will not be penalised, tutorial quizzes will take place in the last 25 minutes of the tutorial. We will have material to work on in the first half hour preceding the quiz.
3. Quiz results will be discussed and returned in the following week's tutorial.

11. Expected Resources for Students
Textbook Details
Fromkin, V. et al, 2012. An Introduction to Language. (7th, Australian Edition). Centage
Additional Readings
Finegan, E. et al, (1997) Language: Its Structure and Use. (2 nd Australian Edition). Harcourt Brace.
Websites
An encyclopaedic reference work cataloguing all the world's 6,912 known living languages http://www.ethnologue.com The World Atlas of Language Structure Online http://wals.info/

12. Course Evaluation and Development
Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means, including UNSW's Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process.

13. Other Information
<p>Submission of Assessment Tasks</p> <p>Assignments which are submitted to the School Assignment Box must have a properly completed School Assessment Coversheet, with the declaration signed and dated by hand. It can be downloaded from https://hal.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/courses/course-outlines/. It is individual students' responsibility to make a backup copy of the assignment prior to submission and retain it.</p> <p>Assignments must be submitted before 4:00pm on the due date. Assignments received after this time will be marked as having been received late.</p>
<p>Late Submission of Assignments</p> <p>Late assignments will attract a penalty. Of the total mark, 3% will be deducted each day for the first week, with Saturday and Sunday counting as two days, and 10% each week thereafter.</p> <p>The penalty may not apply where students are able to provide documentary evidence of illness or serious misadventure. Time pressure resulting from undertaking assignments for other courses does not constitute an acceptable excuse for lateness.</p>
<p>OHS</p> <p>UNSW's Occupational Health and Safety Policy requires each person to work safely and responsibly, in order to avoid personal injury and to protect the safety of others. For all matters relating to Occupational Health, Safety and environment, see http://www.ohs.unsw.edu.au/</p>
<p>Attendance</p> <p>Students are expected to be regular and punctual in attendance at all classes in the courses in which they are enrolled. Explanations of absences from classes or requests for permission to be absent from classes should be discussed with the teacher and</p>

where applicable accompanied by a medical certificate. If students attend less than 80% of their possible classes they may be refused final assessment.

Students who falsify their attendance or falsify attendance on behalf of another student will be dealt with under the student misconduct policy.

Class Clash

- a. The student must provide the Course Convenor with copies of lecture notes from those lectures missed on a regular basis if so agreed by the Course Convenor and the student.
- b. If a student does indeed attend a lecture for which they had secured a permitted clash they will still submit lecture notes as evidence of attendance.
- c. **Failure to meet these requirements is regarded as unsatisfactory performance in the course and a failure to meet the Faculty's course attendance requirement. Accordingly, Course Convenors will fail students who do not meet this performance/attendance requirement.**
- d. **Students must attend the clashed lecture on a specific date if that lecture contains an assessment task for the course such as a quiz or test.** Inability to meet this requirement would be grounds for a Course Convenor refusing the application. If the student misses the said lecture there is no obligation on the Course Convenor to schedule a make-up quiz or test and the student can receive zero for the assessment task. It should be noted that in many courses a failure to complete an assessment task can be grounds for course failure.

Special Consideration

In cases where illness or other circumstances produce repeated or sustained absence, students should apply for Special Consideration as soon as possible. Forms are available from Student Central on the ground floor of the Chancellery (opposite the Library) or online at the link below.

Applications on the grounds of illness must be filled in by a medical practitioner.

Further information is available at:

<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/SpecialConsideration.html>

Student Equity and Disabilities Unit

Students who have a disability that requires some adjustment in their learning and teaching environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the course convener prior to or at the commencement of the course, or with the Student Equity Officers (Disability) in the Student Equity and Disabilities Unit (9385 4734). Information for students with disabilities is available at: <http://www.studentequity.unsw.edu.au>

Issues to be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional examination and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.