

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

Language, Culture and Society

2. COURSE CODE

ENGL2006

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of English Language and Literature

5. PREREQUISITES

Nil

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

English

7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 1) Helping students understand the interaction between social systems and language varieties;
- 2) Helping students to examine the notions of standard and non-standard varieties of a language, especially as they relate to the language situation in Hong Kong;
- 3) Helping students understand how language use differs across individuals and groups based on social class, gender, identity, and ethnicity; and
- 4) Helping students understand how language ideologies and attitudes impact language policies and language education.

8. COURSE CONTENT

- I. Introduction of key concepts such as speech community, standard and vernacular language, accent and dialect, and sociolinguistic variables
- II. Regional and social variation; language change
- III. Language and gender
- IV. Bilingualism, multilingualism & code-switching
- V. Language attitudes and stereotypes

VI. Language policies and education

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Describe the interrelationship between linguistic and social phenomena
CILO 2	Identify sociolinguistic phenomena
CILO 3	Present evidence from different social and cultural contexts which demonstrates that language differs across individuals and social groups
CILO 4	Discuss different theories on why language differs across individuals and social groups
CILO 5	Interpret authentic sociolinguistic data based on relevant theory and their implications

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
CILO 1	Discuss relevant cases, and examples of authentic data, in groups and present their findings
CILO 2	Complete a mid-term test which will assess their familiarity with the readings and with sociolinguistic terminology
CILO 3	Participate regularly in class discussions and/or Chat Forums about assigned topics or sociolinguistic issues which have been discussed in class
CILO 4	Complete oral and written assignments in which they describe and interpret authentic data
CILO 5	Complete an end of course examination in which they answer essay questions on sociolinguistic topics and issues

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Group project	30 %	1,2,5	<p>Assignments will test students' writing as well as presentation skills and assess students' ability to describe and interpret authentic data.</p> <p>E-pedagogy may also be used, including gathering and analyzing data via social media and/or other digital tools and visualization aids (word cloud, mobile device in-class survey,</p>

			and/or coding).
Mid-term essay	30 %	2,5	<p>Assignments will test students' writing as well as presentation skills and assess students' ability to describe and interpret authentic data.</p> <p>E-pedagogy may also be used, including gathering and analyzing data via social media and/or other digital tools and visualization aids (word cloud, mobile device in-class survey, and/or coding).</p>
Examination	40 %	4,5	A number of set questions (usually six) from which the students choose three. All questions require students to present and discuss evidence from the sociolinguistic literature, and discuss social issues (some of them local) which are related to language use.

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