

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

Theoretical Linguist Meets World

2. COURSE CODE

ENGL4056

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of English Language and Literature

5. PREREQUISITES

ENGL2005 Introduction to the Study of Language

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

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7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 1) To enable students to relate and apply their discipline in theoretical linguistics to a wider spectrum of disciplines and to the practicalities of daily life;
- 2) To broaden students' perspectives on the relevance of other disciplines to linguistics;
- 3) To cultivate a sense of a larger academic context; and
- 4) To provide greater interdisciplinary scope.

8. COURSE CONTENT

- I. Patterns, hidden realities and theoretical constructs
 - a. Surface patterns and underlying representations in Linguistics
 - b. Theoretical constructs in the physical sciences
 - c. Theoretical constructs in humanities and social sciences
- II. Modes of Analyses
 - a. Motivations for analysis in daily life and in academic disciplines
 - b. Kinds of analyses
 - c. Analyses in Linguistics
 - d. Analyses in daily life, the sciences and humanities

e. Qualification of analyses: proof versus evidence

III. Conflict resolution

a. Types of conflict resolution

b. Conflict resolution in linguistic analyses

c. Modeling human behavior with conflict resolution systems used in linguistics

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Identify the relevant analytical methods in knowledge-construction in linguistics and in other fields of knowledge (e.g. physics, biology, mathematics, literature)
CILO 2	Apply the relevant linguistic analytical strategies to problem-solving in everyday life
CILO 3	Construct plausible analyses to linguistic and non-linguistic problems on the basis of the methods and strategies acquired from this course
CILO 4	Evaluate the feasibility and applicability of analyses based on internal logical coherence and on empirical verification
CILO 5	Articulate the insights behind analyses across different disciplines (e.g. physics, biology, mathematics, literature)

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
CILO	- Lecture on different linguistic puzzles and explanations - Class discussion on the strategies used in the analyses
CILO 2	- Workshops to relate strategies of linguistic research to non-linguistic issues
CILO 3	- Workshops on solving real linguistic puzzles - Exploratory workshops building solutions to a non-linguistic issues
CILO 4	- Symposium/seminar style discussions on solutions to non-linguistic issues developed on exploratory workshops (see CILO 3)
CILO 5	- Workshops on articulating the insights behind analyses in other disciplines (from the perspective of a theoretical linguist)

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Regular Research	20 %	1, 2, 3	Two regular research reports assess students' development of a research project.

Reports			
Active Participation	10 %	3, 4, 5	Active participation is a combination of peer learning (termwork), and of clear and logical articulation (in class or over the Moodle forum).
Seminar Presentation	30 %	3, 4	Seminar presentations assess students output of learning through their own independent explorations and in applying their learning.
Term Paper	40 %	2, 4, 5	The term paper assesses students' abilities to apply the thinking skills of a linguist to a non-linguistic issue.

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