



## COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
<b>Coordinating:</b> Assoc. Prof. Dr. D.Vengaliene <b>Other:</b> Assoc. Prof. Dr. R.Baranauskiene	Institute of Language, Literature and Translation Studies, Kaunas Faculty of Vilnius University Muitinès St. 8, LT-44280 Kaunas

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Auditorium and independent work	1 <sup>st</sup> semester	English

Requisites	
<b>Prerequisites:</b> None	<b>Co-requisites (if relevant):</b> None

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	130	48	82

Purpose of the course unit		
<p>The aim of the course (module) is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to provide knowledge about the branch of linguistics its objects of study as a constantly changing phenomenon;</li> <li>- to provide knowledge about the semantic and pragmatic aspects of language;</li> <li>- to familiarise students with the concepts and terminology of linguistics and its main directions;</li> <li>- to develop the ability to understand language as a system: phonological, morphological and syntactic;</li> <li>- to develop critical thinking, the ability to systematise material and plan one's learning process responsibly.</li> </ul>		
Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
The student will be able to understand and describe language as a constantly evolving phenomenon, to appropriately use and explain fundamental linguistic concepts and terms, and identify and describe the main branches of linguistics.	Theoretical lectures and seminars; individual assignments; group work and discussions; literature studies (reading required texts and preparing for seminars), and video material review.	The results achieved during the course are assessed using the following methods: - Preparation for seminars and participation in discussions; - Completion of individual assignments; - Interim assessment;
The student will be able to analyze and organize material from various		

sources using modern information technologies, Gen AI platforms, historical and modern literature editions, and library resources.		- Examination. The final assessment of the student's achievements is the arithmetic mean of the marks.
The student is able to take responsibility for their performance, plan and efficiently utilize time, tools, and other resources, while organizing their learning and work.		

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Tasks for individual work
1. Language and linguistics. The phenomenon of language. Language as a system and structure. Language and speech. Features and functions of language.	2		2				4	6	<p>Required reading: 1. <i>Introducing Linguistics</i>: Chapter 9.</p> <p>Recommended reading: <i>Introducing Linguistics Theoretical and Applied Approaches</i>, Part 1;</p> <p><i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>, Chapter 1.</p>
2. Phonetics. Speech sounds. Articulation of speech sounds and their acoustic properties. Classification of speech sounds. Vowels. Diphthongs. Consonants. Transcription.	2		2				4	6	<p>Required reading: <i>Introducing Linguistics</i>: Chapter 1.</p> <p>Recommended reading: <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>, p. 1-24;</p> <p><i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>, Chapter 2.</p>

									<p><u>Video:</u>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j</a></p>
3. Phonology. Phonemes, speech sounds, allophones. Segmental and suprasegmental phonology. Basic prosody concepts. Stress. Tones and intonation.	2		2				4	8	<p>Required reading:  <i>Introducing Linguistics:</i>  Chapter 2.</p> <p>Recommended reading:  <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>, p. 29-65;</p> <p><i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>, Chapter 3.</p> <p><u>Video:</u>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j</a></p>
4. Morphology. Morphemes. Morphological structure of words and principles of word formation. Grammatical meaning of words. Changes in material word structure. Grammatical categories of word compounds and sentences.	2		2				4	8	<p>Required reading:  <i>Introducing Linguistics:</i>  Chapter 3.</p> <p>Recommended reading:  <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>, p.70-108;</p> <p><i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>, Chapter 4.</p> <p><u>Video:</u>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j</a></p>

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5. Syntax. Syntactic categories and elements: word combinations, phrases, sentences. Parts of a sentence, types of sentences, and grammar rules. Word subordination and ambiguity.	2		2				4	8	<p>Required reading: <i>Introducing Linguistics</i>: Chapter 4.</p> <p>Recommended reading: <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>, p.11-137;</p> <p><i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>, Chapter 5.</p> <p>Video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j</a></p>
6. Midterm test			2				2		
7. Semantics. Lexical meaning of words. Semantic types of words. Sentence meaning. Semantic features. Lexicography and types of dictionaries. History of lexicography.	2		2				4	8	<p>Required reading: <i>Introducing Linguistics</i>: Chapter 5.</p> <p>Recommended reading: <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>, p. 140-170;</p> <p><i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>, Chapter 6.</p> <p>Video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j</a></p>
8. Pragmatics. Language usage, expression of intentions. Speech act	2		2				4	6	Required reading:

theory. Rules of pragmatics. Principle of cooperation. Politeness.									<p><i>Introducing Linguistics:</i> Chapter 6.</p> <p>Recommended reading: <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>, p. 176-202;</p> <p><i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>, Chapter 7.</p> <p>Video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j</a></p>
9. World language diversity and classification of languages. Germanic languages. Development and stages of the English language. Diversity of contemporary languages. Diachronic and synchronic methods of language research.	2		2				4	6	<p>Required reading: <i>Introducing Linguistics:</i> Chapter 8 and Chapter 28.</p> <p>Recommended reading: <i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>, Chapter 12, Chapter 13.</p>
10. Sociolinguistics. Language and society. Language variation among individuals and social groups.	2		2				4	6	<p>Required reading: <i>Introducing Linguistics:</i> Chapter 12.</p> <p>Recommended reading: <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>, p. 210-228;</p> <p><i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>,</p>

									Chapter 10 and Chapter 11.  Video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLU14u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j</a>
11. An overview of Contemporary Linguistic Trends and Research: Psycholinguistics, Cognitive Linguistics, Internet Linguistics, Forensic Linguistics, etc.; Language and Gender; Sentiment Analysis; Study of Hate Speech	2		2				4	8	Required reading: <i>Introducing Linguistics</i> : Chapter 13, Chapter 14.  Recommended reading: <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i> , p. 230-260;  <i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i> , Chapter 9.
12. Overview of Language Research Methods and Ethics	2		2				4	6	Required reading: <i>Introducing Linguistics</i> : Chapters (student's choice: 16, 19, 20, 21, 22.
13. Language and AI Interaction: Overview of Natural Language and its Characteristics. Importance of Semantic Analysis for Working with AI.	2		2				4	6	Required reading: <i>Linguistics for the Age of AI</i> , Chapter 1, Chapter 4.  Recommended reading: <i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i> , Chapter 16.
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>		<b>24</b>				<b>48</b>	<b>82</b>	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
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Preparation for seminars and participation in discussions	20%	During the semester	<p>Students must read the required literature chapters specified before the seminar and be prepared to support their opinions with arguments.</p> <p>10 points: The student always or almost always actively participates in discussions, articulates their opinions with well-founded arguments, provides detailed answers to questions, firmly supports their viewpoints based on the required readings; they respectfully comment on the opinions of other students in the discussion.</p> <p>The student is able to summarize the required course material. They show interest in additional literature and can provide information/examples not only from the required literature but also from independently read materials and video recordings.</p> <p>9 points: The student frequently participates in discussions, answers questions, fully or partially grounds their opinions based on the required readings. They respectfully comment on the opinions of other students in the discussion.</p> <p>The student is able to summarize the required course material. They can provide examples and theoretical insights from independently studied sources (books or video material).</p> <p>8 points: The student frequently participates in discussions, provides good but sometimes incomplete answers to questions, does not always justify their opinions, is not always prepared for seminars, and has not always read the required literature. They rarely read additional (recommended) literature and seldom engage with video material.</p> <p>The student is able to summarize the main ideas of the required literature and uses examples and theoretical insights from the required readings.</p> <p>7 points: The student participates in discussions but provides incomplete answers to questions, cannot always justify their opinions; they are often superficially prepared for seminars, and sometimes have not read the required literature.</p> <p>The student does not always correctly summarise the main ideas presented in the required literature, but is able to join the discussions.</p> <p>6 points: The student usually participates passively in discussions, demonstrates superficial knowledge, cannot justify their opinions based on the readings, and minimally prepares for seminars.</p> <p>The student summarizes the read material superficially and sometimes incorrectly.</p> <p>5 points: The student rarely participates in discussions, demonstrates superficial knowledge, often provides unfounded and incorrect answers, minimally prepares or sometimes does not prepare for seminars.</p>
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			<p>The student struggles to summarize the main ideas of the read material and often makes significant errors.</p> <p>4 - 1 points: The student is passive and almost or never participates in discussions, does not prepare for seminars and shows no interest in the subject matter. The course material has not been learned.</p>
Individual work	20%	During the semester	<p>Students have to have completed individually assigned small-scale tasks related to the course topics.</p> <p>10 points: The student completes all individual assignments on time and exceptionally well, presents their work excellently, is able to explain both theoretical and practical aspects, and answers questions to the full.</p> <p>9 points: The student completes almost all individual assignments, presents their work very well, explains both theoretical and practical aspects, and answers questions effectively.</p> <p>8 points: The student completes most individual assignments, presents their work well, explains both theoretical and practical aspects, and answers questions effectively.</p> <p>7 points: The student completes most individual assignments and presents their work well, but does not always explain their results clearly.</p> <p>6 points: The student completes more than half of the individual assignments, presents their work satisfactorily, but their work contains many inaccuracies, and sometimes major errors.</p> <p>5 points: The student completes half of the individual assignments, often makes major errors, struggles to explain both the theoretical and practical results of their work, and has difficulty answering questions.</p> <p>4 – 0 points: The student completes less than half of the individual assignments and/or the results are fundamentally incorrect.</p>
Midterm test	30%	The middle of the semester	<p>The midterm test consists of 30 closed and 5 open questions.</p> <p>10 points: The student's knowledge is excellent and comprehensive, with detailed and correct answers. The student scores over 90% of the possible points.</p> <p>9 points: The student's knowledge is very good and is applied smoothly when answering questions; any inaccuracies in the answers are not significant. The student scores over 80% of the possible points..</p> <p>8 points: The student's knowledge is better than average, though there are some errors in their answers. The student scores over 70% of the possible points.</p> <p>7 points: The student's knowledge and skills are average, with quite a few incorrect answers or lacking justification in their responses. The student scores over 60% of the possible points.</p>



			<p>6 points: The student's knowledge and skills are below average, with superficial and often inaccurate or incorrect answers. The student scores over 50% of the possible points.</p> <p>5 points: The student's knowledge and skills meet the minimum requirements. The student scores between 45-50% of the possible points.</p> <p>4 - 0 points: The student's knowledge and skills do not meet the minimum requirements. The student scores less than 45% of the possible points. Retaking the test is required.</p>
Examination	30%	During the examination session	<p>The exam, i.e. the exam test, consists of 50 closed and 10 open questions.</p> <p>10 points: The student's knowledge is excellent and comprehensive, with detailed and correct answers. The student scores over 90% of the possible points.</p> <p>9 points: The student's knowledge is very good and is applied smoothly when answering questions; any inaccuracies in the answers are not significant. The student scores over 80% of the possible points..</p> <p>8 points: The student's knowledge is better than average, though there are some errors in their answers. The student scores over 70% of the possible points.</p> <p>7 points: The student's knowledge and skills are average, with quite a few incorrect answers or lacking justification in their responses. The student scores over 60% of the possible points.</p> <p>6 points: The student's knowledge and skills are below average, with superficial and often inaccurate or incorrect answers. The student scores over 50% of the possible points.</p> <p>5 points: The student's knowledge and skills meet the minimum requirements. The student scores between 45-50% of the possible points.</p> <p>4 - 0 points: The student's knowledge and skills do not meet the minimum requirements. The student scores less than 45% of the possible points. Retaking the examination is required.</p>

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
<b>Required reading</b>				
Ed. Jonathan Culpeper, Beth Malory, Claire Nance, Daniel Van Olmen, Dimitrinka Atanasova, Sam Kirkham, Aina Casaponsa	2022	<i>Introducing Linguistics</i>		Routledge

Marjorie McShane, Sergei Nirenburg	2021	<i>Linguistics for the Age of AI</i>		MIT Press
<b>Recommended reading</b>				
Ed. Joyce Bruhn De Garavito	2021	<i>Introducing Linguistics Theoretical and Applied Approaches</i>		Cambridge University Press
Ed. Dawson, Hope	2022	<i>Language Files 13: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>		Ohio State University Press
Ingo Plag, Maria Braun, Sabine Lappe, Mareile Schramm	2015	<i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>		De Gruyter Mouton
David Crystal	2019	<i>The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language</i>		Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
David Crystal	2010	<i>A Little Book of Language</i>		OUP Oxford
Lauren Gawne, Jessi Grieser, and Gretchen McCulloch	2022	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dPuuaLjXtP5mp25nStsuDzk2blncJDW">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dPuuaLjXtP5mp25nStsuDzk2blncJDW</a>	video	Youtube resources on Linguistics
Instructor: Prof. Norvin A. Richards	2022	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUI4u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUI4u3cNGP63BZGNOqrF2qf_yxOjuG35j</a> The complete course: <a href="https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/24-900-introduction-to-linguistics-spring-2022/">https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/24-900-introduction-to-linguistics-spring-2022/</a>	video	MIT: Youtube resources on Linguistics
Steven Pinker	1990-2024	<a href="https://youtu.be/22nGKXyLNqA?si=0YebmXOwE-kmY97z">https://youtu.be/22nGKXyLNqA?si=0YebmXOwE-kmY97z</a>  <a href="https://youtu.be/Q-B_ONJIEcE?si=3-GT9Ng5I2zSxy46">https://youtu.be/Q-B_ONJIEcE?si=3-GT9Ng5I2zSxy46</a>  <a href="https://youtu.be/LjQM8PzCEY0?si=NN6-bpQ_WSW2Ijre">https://youtu.be/LjQM8PzCEY0?si=NN6-bpQ_WSW2Ijre</a>  <a href="https://youtu.be/OV5J6BfToSw?si=Z">https://youtu.be/OV5J6BfToSw?si=Z</a>	video	Youtube resources on Linguistics

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