



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
English Around the World: Varieties and Identities	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: lect. Greta Polujanskė	Vilnius University Šiauliai Academy
Other:	

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First	Individualized studies

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Face-to-face	Spring	English

Requisites	
Prerequisites: English Language (B1/B2)	Co-requisites (if relevant):

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	133	32	101

Purpose of the course unit		
The course aims to familiarize students with the diversity of English as a global language, examine its functions and significance across various cultural and social contexts, and develop students' critical awareness of the interrelations between language, identity, and globalization.		
Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will be able to explain the development of English as a global language and identify the historical and sociocultural factors that have influenced its spread.	Information search tasks, literature analysis, traditional lecture, and analysis of audiovisual materials.	Examination, verbal illustrated presentation, and individual assignments (essay, case study).
Students will be able to recognize and analyze major varieties of English worldwide (e.g., British, American, Indian, African, etc.) and describe their key linguistic features.	Information search tasks, literature analysis, traditional lecture.	Examination, verbal illustrated presentation, and individual assignments (essay, case study).
Students will be able to evaluate the role of English in the contexts of globalization, cultural identity, and power relations.	Information search tasks, literature analysis, traditional lecture.	Examination, verbal illustrated presentation.
Students will be able to critically reflect on their own linguistic and cultural identity within the context of English language use.	Reflective writing tasks, discussion.	Verbal illustrated presentation.
Students will be able to apply principles of intercultural communication when	Discussion, case studies.	Examination, verbal illustrated presentation, and individual

using English in diverse social and professional contexts.		assignments (essay, case study).
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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. English as a Language of Power and Prestige: Postcolonial Perspectives Linguistic dominance, language imperialism, and the status of local and indigenous languages.	1			1			4	12	Assigned reading and Analytical writing tasks. Reading of selected literature and preparation of an analytical paper on language policy in a former British Empire country.
2. The Concept of “Global Englishes”: A Pluricentric View of English The diversification of English across different regions and the emergence of “New Englishes.”	3			3			4	12	Media Analysis and presentation. Reading of assigned texts, analysis of selected audio or video materials, and a presentation on the global spread of English.
3. Language and Identity The ways in which English use shapes individual and collective identities; bilingualism, intercultural identity, and the sense of belonging.	2			2			4	12	A reflective essay discussing how learning or using English has influenced the student’s cultural or professional identity.
4. English for Academic Purposes (EAP) and Standards of Scholarly Communication The role of English in knowledge dissemination, academic writing conventions, and access to research.	2			2			4	12	Literature analysis and presentation. Reading of assigned literature and analysis of another specified media genre text, with written and verbal presentation.
5. The Role of Popular Culture in Shaping Linguistic Norms and Identity The influence of global media, music, film, and digital culture on English usage and cultural identity.	2			2			4	12	Literature analysis and presentation. Reading of assigned literature and analysis of another specified media genre text, with written and verbal presentation.
6. Intercultural Communication and Language Etiquette in a Global Context Politeness strategies, pragmatic norms, and cultural variation in English language interaction.	2			2			4	12	Case study and presentation. Assigned literature analysis, preparation of a case study with

									written analysis, and presentation.
7. English in Migration and Diaspora Contexts Language maintenance, adaptation, and the formation of new linguistic communities among migrants and diasporic groups.	2			2			4	12	Presentation on the Linguistic Landscape of a specific diaspora community. Students will research and deliver a presentation analyzing the linguistic characteristics, language use, and identity dynamics within a selected diaspora group.
8. Future Visions of English: Will the Language Remain Dominant? The impact of artificial intelligence, translation technologies, and emerging global linguistic trends on the status of English.	2			2			4	14	Class Discussion: "Will English Always Remain the World's Lingua Franca?" Guided discussion and critical debate on the future status of English in the context of global linguistic change.
Total	16			16			32	101	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Examination	50%	During the examination session	The written examination consists of several parts: 1.Theoretical Questions – assess students' understanding of key concepts, language varieties, and the interaction between globalization and culture (e.g., <i>World Englishes</i> , <i>lingua franca</i> , concepts of identity). 2.Analytical Task / Essay Question – requires students to apply theoretical knowledge to a specific case or phenomenon related to English as a global language. 3.Reflective Question – evaluates students' ability to critically reflect on the significance of English in shaping their personal or professional identity.
Verbal illustrated presentation	25%	During the semester	Students prepare a verbal illustrated presentation on a selected topic, independently researching, synthesizing, and critically evaluating the collected information. The work must clearly demonstrate the relevance of the topic, its key issues, and the student's independent perspective. Assessment Criteria: Content (2 points) Depth and quality of topic analysis. Ability to critically evaluate sources and highlight different aspects of the issue. Coherence of ideas and conclusions; logical argumentation. Linguistic Expression (1 point) Richness and appropriateness of vocabulary. Fluency and clarity of spoken or written English. Accuracy in lexical, grammatical, and pronunciation usage. Presentation and Structure (1 point) Effective use of visual and/or audio aids. Persuasiveness and audience engagement (for verbal presentations). Clear structure, appropriate length, and adherence to formal requirements.
Individual assignments (essay, case study)	25%	During the semester	Assessment Criteria for Written Assignments and Case Studies:

			<p>Quality of Topic Analysis and Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoroughness and depth of information. • Clear identification of key issues or case aspects. • Logical and coherent argumentation. <p>Linguistic Expression:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluency and clarity in English. • Variety and appropriateness of vocabulary. • Correctness in grammar, syntax, and style. <p>Specific Criteria by Assignment Type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay: Clear structure, adherence to formal academic requirements. • Case Study: Well-defined case structure, reasoned evaluation, and inclusion of visual aids where applicable (e.g., slides or diagrams).
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Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
Required reading				
Bertus van Rooy	2023	World Englishes: The Local Lives of a Global Language		Edinburgh University Press
David Crystal	2003	English as a Global Language		Cambridge University Press
Urszula Clark	2013	Language and Identity in Englishes		Routledge
Gunnel Melchers, Philip Shaw, Peter Sundkvist	2019	World Englishes		Routledge
Daniel Schreier, Marianne Hundt, Edgar W. Schneider	2020	The Cambridge Handbook of World Englishes		Cambridge University Press
Recommended reading				
The World Englishes Journal		Academic Journal on Global Varieties of English		https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/1467971x
Jenkins, J.	2015	Global Englishes: A Resource Book for Students		Routledge
Nemira Mačianskienė	2009	English for Intercultural Communication		Kaunas, VDU