

M.A .in Linguistics
COURSE DESCRIPTION

0202750 English Phonetics

3 Credit Hours

This course is an in-depth study of the principles of articulator and acoustic phonetics. The students will be trained to produce, recognize and transcribe all English sounds and their variants. It covers topics such as: description of sounds, stress, intonation, phonation, and speech mechanisms. The principles of phonological analysis with reference to English will also be highlighted.

0202758 History of the English Language

3 Credit Hours

The course comprises a detailed analysis of the origins, growth, development and varieties of English (from the Indo-European beginnings to the present time, with special emphasis on the earlier periods). Emphasis will be placed on the sources of language history, phonetic and phonological change, morphological, syntactic, lexical and semantic development, foreign influences, language contact; internal and comparative reconstruction, general principles, and comparison with other languages, particularly Arabic.

0202751 English Syntax

3 Credit Hours

A detailed study of the syntax of English within certain linguistic frameworks, in particular the transformational and functional frameworks. Major syntactic processes and categories will be emphasized, viz., complementation, nominalization, predication, subordination, conjoining, raising, negation, modality, tense, aspect, substitution, ellipsis, etc.

0202732 English Stylistics

3 Credit Hours

This course is primarily concerned with the function of stylistics in facilitating literary response and in understanding the techniques and features of a variety of texts drawn from such areas of English performance as literature, the media and narrative and forensic linguistics (language and the law). A broad selection of topics central to contemporary linguistics will be discussed, especially those that are particularly illuminating in textual analysis. Selected literary works that have proved to be of considerable interest in literary criticism will be used as a basis for discussion in class. Attention is given to both literary and linguistic stylistics with a view to exploring the relation between style and literary function. By the end of the course, students acquire an understanding of the principles of stylistic analysis and theory. They will be equipped with a clear understanding of how language works, how to identify the essence of an author's style and how arts win people over.

0202752 Research Methodology in the English Language

3 Credit Hours

This is a practical study of research techniques in preparation for thesis writing. Students are trained in essential concepts of research: problem identification, review of the literature, constructing a research design and formulation of hypotheses/objective; research methods and their application to research (library, observational, experimental): preparation of a research proposal, data collection, data analysis (sorting, displaying and description), the research report format, principles of scholarly writing of reports of findings, making recommendations, and documentation.

0202753 Theories of Linguistics 3 Credit Hours

Acquainting students with the development of modern linguistics and its major theories in the 20th century such as: structuralism, transformational generative grammar and functional grammar. The course also introduces students to the major works of each theory.

0202759 Sociolinguistics and English Dialects 3 Credit Hours

This course has two components:

A. Language variation across communicative situations: the influence of situational factors on linguistic expression and discourse structure (purpose, addressee setting, mode, network theory).

B. Language variation across social dimensions along which language forms (phonological and syntactic) and discourse practices vary; markers of social class, sex and age, methods of gathering data, forming hypotheses and testing them quantitatively will be described.

0202762 English Phonology 3 Credit Hours

This course aims at introducing a sub-discipline of linguistics, phonology, which handles the organization of speech sounds in the language, how a language organizes sounds into systematic patterns and how speakers internalize knowledge of these patterns as a system of symbolic rules and representations. The fundamentals of the sound systems of the language are covered: segmental representation and distinctive features theory, syllable structures, prosodic domains and stress features. There is a concentration on the classical and current trends in generative phonology and there will be an introduction to the recent developments in phonological theory.

0202760 The Intonation of English 3 Credit Hours

This course aims to help students master the intonation patterns of spoken English at the levels of listening and speaking. It covers how the English utterance is made of terms and how the tone consists of one or more rhythmic units. Tonality and tonicity are very well covered. The intonation patterns will be related to their meaning and to the various grammatical structures they signal. The course is almost practical; it is based on ear training and oral practice.

0202754 Discourse Analysis in English Language 3 Credit Hours

Discourse Analysis is graduate course that investigates the organization of language beyond the sentence level in both speech and writing. This course consists of two parts. Part one examines the major theoretical approaches to discourse analysis, macro-and micro-language function, information packaging, speech act theory, conversational strategies, exchange structure, dimensions of discourse analysis and standards of textuality. The second part will be devoted to the pedagogical applications of these theoretical concepts. Students will be taught how to explore ways in which their theoretical knowledge can be put into action in order to develop discourse skills.

0202761 English Language Variation 3 Credit Hours

This course is meant to expose students to the different varieties of English and to acquaint them with the outstanding characteristics of such varieties. Students are required to study authentic spoken and written material representing such varieties: i.e. formal vs. informal; standard vs. substandard; spoken vs. written; common core language vs. specialized use; etc.

0202763 Special Subject in the English Language 3 Credit Hours

This is a detailed study of a recent linguistic theory or language issue and its application to English. It can also be a synchronic description of English at a particular period.

0202745 Contrastive Textology 3 Credit Hours

This course aims at acquainting the students with the emergence of contrastive textology and discourse analysis. It includes : components of contrastive textology, text types, standards of textuality (cohesion, coherence, informativity, intentionality,...), paragraph structure, text pragmatics, foregrounding devices, and implications to the teaching of translation from English into Arabic and vice versa.

0202746 Middle English 3 Credit Hours

The course is intended to enable students to read Middle English—Chaucer in particular—with ease. Chaucerian texts in the original will be read and analyzed, and although emphasis will be placed on the language of Chaucer, there will be some focus on Chaucer as a poet. Other texts drawn from the various Middle English dialects will be read, and comparison will be made with the South East Midland/London dialect.

0202755 Semantics and Pragmatics 3 Credit Hours

This course examines the definitions and theories of semantics, lexical and sentential properties. It also investigates some pragmatic concepts such as context, types of inferences (presupposition, entailment, implicative), speech acts and information packaging.

0202756 Psycholinguistics 3 Credit Hours

This course will focus mainly on three major issues: language comprehension, language production, and language acquisition. Students will be trained to discover systematically the linguistic rules and relations that underlie language behavior; moreover, a special emphasis will also be placed on various issues related to first and second language acquisition.

0202764 Lexicology and Dictionaries 3 Credit Hours

This course aims at familiarizing the students with the developing field of lexicology. It covers topics such as lexical sets, lexical selection, lexical relations and componential features of lexical items. The course offers systematic training in the use of monolingual and bilingual dictionaries. The problems of translating lexical relations and collocations will also be investigated in this course. Training will be in both Arabic and English.