

Course Syllabus

Social variation, language contact and power in English 7.5 Credits*, First Cycle Level 2

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course, students should be able to:

- identify different factors explaining fundamental patterns of language use, variation and change
- analyse linguistic interaction using sociolinguistic terminology
- discuss the notions of language maintenance and death
- analyse the effects of globalization and language contact involving English
- discuss power relationships and their effect on language use
- analyse how language policy and planning affect the use of English in the world
- apply methods of sociolinguistic analysis (such as, those in ethnographic and variationist sociolinguistics) to instances of English language use
- demonstrate a high level of spoken and written academic English.

Course Content

The course involves the deeper study of different topics within the sociolinguistics of English. Different factors that explain how people use the English language and methods of studying linguistic interaction are investigated, including power relationships between individuals. Theoretical approaches to the study of the relationship between English and society are discussed as well. The role of English in a global world is discussed, including how it affects other languages, both in terms of how languages are changed through adopting vocabulary from other languages and how languages can be put in danger because of the power of English.

Assessment

Examination takes place through active participation in seminars, hand-in assignments, and an essay.

Forms of Study

The forms of study are seminars. Teaching is conducted entirely in English.

Grades

The Swedish grades U–VG.

Prerequisites

60 credits in English at Undergraduate level, including the course, Introduction to Modern English Linguistics, 7.5 credits

Subject:

English

Group of Subjects:

English

Disciplinary Domain:

Humanities, 100%

This course can be included in the following main field(s) of study:

1. English

Progression Indicator within (each) main field of study:

1. G2F

Approved:

Approved 17 September 2014

Valid from 17 September 2014