

GUÍA DOCENTE

1. COURSE OVERVIEW

B.A.	TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETING
Course	SOCIOLINGISTICS (ENGLISH)
Unit	English
Department	Language Studies and Translation
Semester	First semester
ECTS	3
Year	3&4
Course status	Elective course
Language	English

Course design	
a. Lectures	x
b. Assignments and self-study	x
c. Extramural activities	x



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2. TEACHING STAFF

Course coordinator	
Name:	Francisco Lorenzo
School:	School of Humanities
Department:	Language Studies and Translation
Department unit:	English
Status	Lecturer
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3. Curricular rationale

3.1. Objectives

This course provides a basic overview of some of the primary concerns in contemporary Sociolinguistics. It is designed both to familiarise learners with the interface of language and social issues and to develop hands-on experience in text analysis. The main focus of the course is the translation of English sociolinguistic variables into Spanish and the rendering of original linguistic effects in the target language.

3.2. Prior knowledge and assumed skills

Sociolinguistics provides linguistic insights of societies, communities and popular culture. It addresses a wide range of concerns and covers a rich body of filmic, literary and otherwise artistic textual works. The course has been designed as an Introduction to Sociolinguistics for students of second languages, with a special emphasis on questions relating to Translation and Interpreting.

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4. Key Competencies And Skills

4.1 Degree competencies

- To develop language skills and monitor the individual learning process.
- To work cooperatively and pursue learning goals in a team-work spirit.
- To analyse social life.

4.2. Area competencies

- To develop textual competence and learn the structure of written composition.
- To produce, revise and present translations.

4.3. Course competencies

- To handle the lexicographical and textual sources for accurate translation and stylistic effects.
- To capture the social meanings in source texts and to propose accurate semantic equivalents in the target language.
- To convey connotations in the target language as found in artistic and literary texts.

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4. SYLLABUS

- Macro & Micro approaches to sociolinguistics.
- The linguistic structure of society.
- Variables and speaker networks: age.
- Variables and speaker networks: gender.
- Variables and speaker networks: ethnicity and race: Chicano English and Black Vernacular English.
- Urban multilingualism: diglossia and code-switching.
- Bilingualism: the bilingual person and artist.
- Multicultural communication.

5. METHODOLOGY

The course is designed to combine seminar-type discussions of set texts and in-class audio-visual material with hands-on workshop type sessions where students will be able to put some of the theory into practice.

The language of the classroom and for assessment will be English. Being a popular course for Erasmus students a fair degree of multilingualism is expected and will be welcomed. This will be the case especially in translation tasks, where multilingual groups will be set up for collaborative translations.

The course is based on a WebCT platform: all reading texts are available in the WebCT, as are many of the video clips, on-line resources plus copies of all the worksheets and powerpoints used in class. The student will need to check their WebCT on a regular basis.

English is used for both teaching and assessment. For this reason, students should have a good command of the language. C1 is the right level to take full advantage of the course.



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6. ASSESSMENT

50 per cent of the total assessment grades are based on a portfolio folder that students will have to produce and hand at the end of the course. The course power point presentations include final slides with directions for assessment and tasks. Cheating, copying or plagiarising will be seriously prosecuted.

30 per cent of the total assessment will be test-based. The final test will comprise one text commentary, and further questions to check set-readings completion.

20 per cent of the marks will be given for classroom active participation and in-class task completion. 75% attendance to the course will be required.

7. REFERENCES

Coupland, N. and Jaworski, A. (eds).2009 Sociolinguistics: a Reader (Macmillan) 2009

Holmes, J. 2005 An Introduction to Sociolinguistics (Pearson)

Wardhaugh, R. 2010 An introduction to Sociolinguistics (Wiley Blackwell)

Hernández-Campoy, J.M 2016 Sociolinguistic Style. (Wiley Blackwell)

OPTIONAL READING

(These are all popular non-fiction books, dealing with questions which relate to the areas of sociolinguistics. None are obligatory but all or any would provide interesting reading. They are all in the library at UPO.)

1. About language

Abley, M. Spoken Here – Travels among Threatened Languages. Arrow Books. 2005

Bauer, L. and Trudgill, P. (eds) Language Myths Penguin 1998

Block, D. and Cameron, D. (eds.) Globalization and Language Teaching Routledge 2002

Bolinger, D. Language: the Loaded Weapon Longman 1980

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- Bragg, M. *The Routes of English* BBC 2000 Bragg, M. *The Adventure of English: biography of a Language* Arcade Publishing 2006
- Crystal, D. *The Stories of English* Penguin 2004
- Crystal, D. *English as a Global Language* Cambridge University Press 2003
- Dent, S. *The Language Report* Oxford University Press 2003
- Deutscher, G. *The Unfolding of Language* Arrow Books, 2005
- Eco, U. *Mouse or Rat? Translation as Negotiation* Phoenix 2005
- Games, A. *Balderdash and Piffle* BBC Books 2006 Gigliolo, P.P. (ed.) *Language and Social Context* Penguin 1982
- Hoffman, E. *Lost in Translation* Penguin 1989
- Hughes, G. *Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language* (Penguin) 1998
- Humphrys, J. *Lost for Words* Hodder & Stoughton 2004 Jacot de Boinod, A. *The Meaning of Tingo* Penguin 2005
- Lowe, M. & Graham, B. *English Language for Beginners Writers & Readers* Publishing Collective 1998
- Pochhacker, F. y Schlesinger, M. (Eds) *The Interpreting Studies Reader* Routledge 2001 Pullum, G. *The Great Eskimo Vocabulary Hoax and Other Irreverent Essays on the Study of Language* University of Chicago Press 1991
- Truss, L. *Eats, Shoots and Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation* Profile Books 2005
- Venuti, L. (Ed.) *The Translation Studies Reader* Routledge 1999
2. About Culture/Society (mostly UK)
- Aitch, I. *We're British, innit* Harper Collins 2008
- Fox, K. *Watching the English* Hodder 2005
- Lyall, S. *A Field Guide to the English* Quercus 2008
- Paxman, J. *The English: a Portrait of a People* Overlook Books 2001
- Truss, L. *Talk to the Hand: The utter Bloody Rudeness of Everyday Life* Profile Books 2005
- Walmsley, J. *Brit-think, Ameri-think: A Transatlantic Survival Guide* Penguin