

Identification	Subject (code, title, credits)	LING215, Introduction to Linguistics, 3KU/6 ECTS
	Department	English Language and Literature Department
	Program (undergraduate, graduate)	Undergraduate
	Term	Fall, 2025
	Instructor	Kamala Jafarova Doctor of Philology, Professor
	E-mail:	kamacafarova_adu@mail.ru
	Classroom/hours	4 academic hours
	Office hours	Thursday – Friday; From 15:00 to 18:30
Prerequisites	Consent of the Instructor	
Language	English	
Compulsory/Elective	Compulsory	
Textbooks and course materials	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Laszlo Varga (2010) <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i> 2. Yule, G. (2020). <i>The Study of Language</i> (7th ed.). Cambridge University Press. 3. Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., & Hyams, N. (2021). <i>An Introduction to Language</i> (7th ed.). Cengage Learning. 4. Aitchison, J. (2010). <i>Aitchison's Linguistics: A Practical Introduction to Contemporary Linguistics</i> (7th ed.). John Murray Press. 5. Fasold, R. W., & Connor-Linton, J. (Eds.). (2006). <i>An Introduction to Language and Linguistics</i>. Cambridge University Press. 	
Course description	<p>This course provides a general introduction to the historical background, formation, common features, and diversity of languages and language families. It emphasizes methods and techniques of linguistic analysis, with particular attention to meaning, variation, and the evolution of regional and social dialects. The course also examines approaches to the development of linguistic quality assessment models from both historical and theoretical perspectives.</p>	
Course objectives	<p>By the end of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the historical background, formation, and classification of languages and language families. • Recognize the common features and diversity of languages across regions and social groups. • Apply methods and techniques of linguistic analysis to examine language structure and use. • Analyze regional and social dialects, including their variation and evolution. • Explore theoretical and historical approaches to linguistic quality assessment. 	

Learning outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the historical development and classification of major language families. • Identify and explain similarities and differences among languages and dialects. • Conduct basic linguistic analyses using established methods and techniques. • Evaluate changes in regional and social dialects over time. • Assess and critique models for linguistic quality from theoretical and historical perspectives. 		
Teaching methods	Interactive seminar	+	
	Discussion	+	
	Presentation	+	
	Case Studies	+	
	Group Work	+	
	Others	+	
Evaluation	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam	November	30
	Quizzes	October / December	20
	Participation	During the term	5
	Activity	During the term	10
	Final Exam	January	35
	Total		100
Assessment	<p><i>Class participation</i></p> <p>Active participation is essential for success in this course. Your engagement in daily activities, discussions, linguistic exercises, analyses and in-class projects will form the basis of participation assessment. By actively contributing and following class guidelines, you can earn up to 5 points toward your final grade.</p> <p><i>Activity</i></p> <p>Active engagement in class activities is a fundamental component of the learning process and directly contributes to your academic progress. Class activities are designed to enhance your understanding of course materials through practical application, interactive collaboration, and critical thinking. These activities may include individual and group tasks, case studies and presentations.</p> <p>Your performance will be assessed based on the quality of your contributions, your ability to work effectively with peers, and your commitment to completing assigned tasks. Consistent preparation, respectful communication, and a willingness to share ideas are key expectations.</p> <p>You are also expected and highly encouraged to ask questions, make comments, or disagree with what your fellow students or instructor is saying. Following these rules, you can get 10 points.</p>		

	<p>Quizzes</p> <p>Quizzes are an important component of your semester grade. You will complete two written quizzes during the semester. Successfully completing the quizzes allows you to earn up to 20 points.</p> <p>All above mentioned makes 35 points maximal. The rest 65 points you can get at midterm and final exams. (30 points at midterm and 35 points at final exam respectively)</p>		
Policy	<p>Full-time students are expected to attend all elements of their courses unless they are sick or have permission of their School Dean. In general, to be eligible for taking exams students should not miss more than 30% of the class hours. In addition, the students are expected to be in the classroom ready to work at the appointed hour. It is the students' responsibility to be on time, ready and attentive. Continuing and unexcused absence or lack of participation may lead to withdrawal from the course. All forms of cheating and plagiarism are strictly banned. If 25% plagiarism is found in a submitted assignment, the student gets no point for it. If the student submits the assignment later than due time, 20% of the grade for that assignment is subtracted. The student whose behavior is disruptive either to the instructor or other students will be removed from the team.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;">Tentative Schedule</p> <p style="text-align: center;">This schedule may be changed to the benefit of the students.</p>			
Week	Date/Day (tentative)	Topics	Textbook/Assignments/Reading
1		<p>Unit 1. Language</p> <p>1.1. Introduction to the course. Communication and signs. 1.2. Linguistic communication: the use of language 1.3. The discrete nature of language 1.4. Paralanguage</p>	<p>Laszlo Varga (2010). <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>. Eötvös Lorand University Press. From pages 7 to 14</p>
2		<p>Unit 2. The Study of Language (1)</p> <p>2.1. Language: Externalised and Internalised 2.2. Components of language 2.3. Linguistics and its branches 2.4. Traditional Grammar</p>	<p>Laszlo Varga (2010). <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>. Eötvös Lorand University Press. From pages 15 to 23</p>
3		<p>Unit 3. The Study of Language (2)</p> <p>3.1. Comparative Philology 3.2. The Beginnings of Modern Linguistics in Europe, Saussure 3.3. The Beginnings of Modern Linguistics in America. The Sapir—Whorf hypothesis</p>	<p>Laszlo Varga (2010). <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>. Eötvös Lorand University Press. From pages 25 to 31</p>
4		<p>Unit 4. Phonetics and Phonology, the Study of Sounds and Phonemes</p> <p>4.1. Phonetics 4.2. The tasks of phonetics</p>	<p>Laszlo Varga (2010). <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i>. Eötvös Lorand University Press. From pages 32 to 39</p>

		4.3. Phonology	
5		Unit 5. Morphology, the Study of Morphemes and Words 5.1 Words 5.2 Morphemes 5.3 Segmentability of words into morphemes 5.4 Word formation	Laszlo Varga (2010). <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i> . Eötvös Lorand University Press. From pages 41 to 46
6		Unit 6. Word Formation 6.1. Neologisms 6.2. Etymology 6.3. Borrowing 6.4. Compounding 6.5. Clipping 6.6. Conversion 6.7. Coinage 6.8. Derivation	Yule, G. (2020). <i>The Study of Language</i> (7th ed.). Cambridge University Press. From pages 58 to 65
7		Unit 7. Syntax, the Study of the Structure of Phrases and Sentences 7.1 Sentences and phrases 7.2 Representation 7.3 Simple and complex sentences 7.4 Compound (coordinated) sentences 7.5 Sentence and utterance	Laszlo Varga (2010). <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i> . Eötvös Lorand University Press. From pages 59 to 65
8		Unit 8. Semantics, the Study of Meaning 8.1 Kinds of meaning 8.2 Approaches to word meaning 8.3 Sentence meaning 8.4 Sense relations between words 8.5 The cognitive meaning of sentences	Laszlo Varga (2010). <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i> . Eötvös Lorand University Press. From pages 67 to 71
9		Unit 9. Pragmatics, the Study of Language Use in Particular Situations 9.1. Pragmatics 9.2. The role of context and presuppositions 9.3. Language functions and speech acts 9.4. Conversational implicatures	Laszlo Varga (2010). <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i> . Eötvös Lorand University Press. From pages 73 to 77
10		QUIZ 1 MIDTERM EXAM	
11		Unit 10. Language History and Change 10.1. Family Trees 10.2. Indo-European 10.3. Comparative reconstruction 10.4. The history of English 10.5. Sound changes 10.6. Syntactic changes 10.7. Semantic changes 10.8. Diachronic and synchronic variation	Yule, G. (2020). <i>The Study of Language</i> (7th ed.). Cambridge University Press. From pages 262 to 272

12		Unit 11. Regional Variation in Language 11.1. The standard language 11.2. Dialectology 11.3. Bilingualism 11.4. Language planning 11.5. Pidgins 11.6. Creoles	Yule, G. (2020). <i>The Study of Language</i> (7th ed.). Cambridge University Press. From pages 280 to 288
13		Unit 12. Language variation 12.1. Idiolect 12.2. Code switching 12.3. Diglossia	Laszlo Varga (2010). <i>Introduction to English Linguistics</i> . Eötvös Lorand University Press. From pages 73 to 77
14		Unit 13. Language and Culture 13.1. Culture 13.2. Categories 13.3. Linguistics relativity 13.4. Cognitive categories 13.5. Social categories 13.6. Gender	Yule, G. (2020). <i>The Study of Language</i> (7th ed.). Cambridge University Press. From pages 312 to 321
15		Revision QUIZ 2 Project Presentation	
16		Final Examination	