



Course Code LALI-170	Course Title Language and Identity	Credits (ECTS) 6
Department Languages and Literature	Semester Spring	Prerequisites ENG-101
Type of Course Elective	Field Linguistics	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1st Cycle	Year of Study Any	Lecturer(s) Dr Andry Sophocleous
Mode of Delivery face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

The aim of this course is to study how our personal and social, collective and national identities are reflected in the language we use and how language influences our perceptions of ourselves and others. The link between language and identity is examined in connection to issues relevant to standard and nonstandard languages, self-categorisation and language choice, and language attitudes in bilingual/bidialectal and multilingual settings. In addition to these local issues, the course also examines language in relation to broader societal issues such as education, ethnic identity, politics, gender, age and power.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. discuss the connection between language and power;
2. discuss what social factors influence language standardisation and the impact these factors have on speakers' language use and identity-construction;
3. examine the connection between language use and ethnic identity;
4. explain theoretical concepts which consider identity as a social construct;
5. demonstrate how language, identity and education are linked and discuss why powerful institutions such as education and the media encourage the use of 'legitimate' varieties but restrain the use of less-prestigious varieties;
6. use common methodologies employed to examine linguistic construction of identity in relation to self- and social-categorisation .

Course Contents:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discourse and identity construction 2. Language standardisation 3. Language and social class 4. Accommodation Theory 5. Social Identity Theory 6. Language and Education 7. Language attitudes towards linguistic variation 8. Language and Gender
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Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures and class discussions

Assessment Methods:

Two homework assignments, final exam, and class participation

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Thomas, Linda Wareing, Shan Thornborrow, Joanna, Jones, Jason, and Stilwell Peccei, Jean (eds)	<i>Language, Society and Power: An Introduction</i>	Routledge	1999	041530394X

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Trudgill, Peter	Sociolinguistics: An Introduction to Language and Society	Penguin	2001	0140289216
Garrett, Peter Coupland, Nikolas and Williams, Angie	Investigating Language Attitudes: Social Meanings of Dialect, Ethnicity and Performance	University of Wales Press	2003	0708318037
Edwards, John	Language and Identity	Cambridge University Press	2009	978-0-521-69602-9
McCull Millar, Robert	Language, Nation and Power	Palgrave MacMillan	2005	1-4039-3972-1

Chambers, J. K., Trudgill, Peter, Schilling-Estes, Natalie	The Handbook of Language Variation and Change	Blackwell Publishing	2004	1-4051-1692- 7
Schmid, Carol L.	The Politics of Language	Oxford University Press	2001	978- 0195137767