

LNG courses do not count for Liberal Learning.

LNG 201/Introduction to the English Language

1 course unit

(every semester)

Prerequisite: Reserved for English majors

An introductory linguistics course intended for students who have had no previous exposure to systematic language study. Students will explore the various ways that scholars have approached language, from traditional historical study, to the latest research in neuro-linguistics. The course is organized into three main sections, with two units each. The first will address the questions, "What exactly is a language, and what makes English unique." The second section of the course will examine the grammatical structures of the English language (syntax), its system of sounds (phonology), and the ways that languages instill words with meaning (morphology, semantics). Our final unit will address issues of current interest in linguistics: language variation (dialects and styles), current attitudes about English dialects, and recent debates concerning the biological components of language.

LNG 202/Structure and History of the English Language

1 course unit

(every semester)

Prerequisite: Reserved for English majors

An introduction to both the structure and development of English as a spoken but more especially as a written language. Begins with basic linguistic concepts, and continues by examining the place of English within the Indo-European language group to which it belongs. Looks at the structures of Old English [OE] (600-1100 AD), of Middle English [ME] (1100-1500), of Early Modern English [EModE] (1500-1750) and Present-Day English [PDE] (1750-present).

LNG 311/Understanding English Grammar

1 course unit

(occasionally)

This course does not teach basic writing skills, the rules of usage, or editorial conventions. Instead, the course focuses on the linguistic structure of Present-Day English, principally the syntax (word order or sentence structure) of Present-Day English. Moreover, the course addresses some of the current controversies over usage, the status of dialects, and "good English."

LNG 371/World Englishes

1 course unit

(occasionally)

Prerequisite: LNG 201 or 202 or 211

An intensive study of the development of English as a global language of trade, governance, law, and literature, focusing primarily on English as a post-colonial language (particularly in South Asia and the Pacific), discussion of the linguistic, social, political, and literary implications of its development.

LNG 372/American English

1 course unit

(occasionally)

Prerequisite: LNG 201 or 202 or 211

An examination of linguistic variation (dialects) across the United States. Special attention will be paid to the significance of social, gender, and ethnic factors in dialect differences in American English. We will also consider American dialectology as a crucible for the development of ethical and engaged linguistic theory.

LNG 391/Independent Study in Linguistics

variable course units

(occasionally)