



Universitat de Lleida

DEGREE CURRICULUM
**VARIATION AND
SOCIOLINGUISTICS**

Coordination: SUILS SUBIRA, JORDI

Academic year 2023-24

Subject's general information

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| Subject name | VARIATION AND SOCIOLINGUISTICS | | | |
| Code | 101451 | | | |
| Semester | 2nd Q(SEMESTER) CONTINUED EVALUATION | | | |
| Typology | Degree | Course | Character | Modality |
| | Bachelor's Degree in Catalan Philology and Occitan Studies | 1 | COMMON/CORE | Attendance-based |
| | Double degree: Bachelor's degree in Catalan Philology and and Bachelor's degree in Applied Languages and Translation | 1 | COMMON/CORE | Attendance-based |
| Course number of credits (ECTS) | 6 | | | |
| Type of activity, credits, and groups | Activity type | PRAULA | | TEORIA |
| | Number of credits | 3 | | 3 |
| | Number of groups | 1 | | 1 |
| Coordination | SUILS SUBIRA, JORDI | | | |
| Department | PHILOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION | | | |
| Teaching load distribution between lectures and independent student work | 60 hours lecturing in classroom 90 hours outside classroom teaching/learning | | | |
| Important information on data processing | Consult this link for more information. | | | |
| Language | Catalan | | | |
| Distribution of credits | 3 credits theoretical teaching 3 credits practical cases | | | |

| Teaching staff | E-mail addresses | Credits taught by teacher | Office and hour of attention |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| SUILS SUBIRA, JORDI | jordi.suils@udl.cat | 6 | |

Subject's extra information

Language as a social phenomenon, interactions between language and society. Study of the linguistic aspects of the communities: social and political aspects of the speakers, relations between languages and linguistic planning.

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of the relationships between language and social mediation, for all the diversity and variation of linguistic uses. The subject will focus both on the origin of our sociolinguistic categories and on the relevance of the context in current research.

This course will use digital support conveniently.

Learning objectives

O1 Reflect on the relations between language and society, from the point of view of linguistic use and the perception of the speakers.

O2 Acquire the basic concepts for understanding the relationships between language and society, using the appropriate terminology on linguistic diversity and variation.

O3 Carry out sociolinguistic analysis and comments with a comparative-historical perspective.

O4 Analyze the linguistic uses of English, Catalan or Spanish, from the point of view of sociolinguistics.

O5 Critically analyze the social use and the explicit or implicit sociolinguistic conditions on the use of English, Catalan or Spanish.

Competences

CB1 Possessing and understanding knowledge in an area of study that starts from the base of general secondary education, and is usually found at a level that, although supported by advanced textbooks, also includes some aspects that involve knowledge from the cutting edge of your field of study.

CG6 Implementing the capacity for autonomous learning.

CG10 Implementing knowledge and the ability to use ICT in relation to the corresponding field of study.

CG12 Properly use the terminology and techniques of the disciplinary or professional field.

CE1 Characterizing basic knowledge of linguistic thinking and the ability to discriminate critically between different theories to apply them in the scientific study of the language.

CT3 Acquiring training in the use of new technologies and information and communication technologies.

CT4 Acquiring basic knowledge of entrepreneurship and professional environments.

CT5 Acquiring essential notions of scientific thought.

Subject contents

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SOCIOLINGUISTICS

Background: Language and society

Psychology and ideology

Structure and use

MACROSOCIOLINGUISTICS

Diversity and variation

Social variables

Domains of use

Linguistic Conflict

LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY

Ethnography of communication

Communicative competence

Speech acts

LANGUAGE AND POWER

Linguistic capital

Social norms and habitus

Ideologies: Discourse analysis on languages

MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENT

Phases and processes of reproduction and substitution

Type of population

Interpretations of phenomena

MULTILINGUALISM AND LANGUAGES IN CONTACT

Contact-induced change

Linguistic interference: description and analysis

Code Alternation

Contact Phenomena

Contact and linguistic evolution

Pidgins and criolls

Methodology

Face-to-face, 60 hours:

Masterly Lessons

Communication (oral exposures, audiovisual ...)

Conferences

Non face-to-face, 90 hours:

Individual work

Analysis and reflection

Treatment of the information (reading, localization, selection ...)

Works and individual practices cooperative work

Individual and group tutorials to support the students' work (online).

Development plan

Week 1:

Introducing the matter, precedents to the interest for linguistic diversity. Placing linguistics and sociolinguistics

Languages as a human heritage.

The responsibility of the linguists.

Comments to Sapir. A referent.

Week 2:

Language and culture.

Back to the relativistic visions.

Language and social control.

On the category 'gender'.

Week 3:

Comments to Bastardas's key ideas; the three poles (socio, linguo, psico)

Week 4:

Social approach: Sociolinguistics about crisis: the concep of diglossia.

Language shift and reversion.

Linguistic obsolescence.

The ecology of language.

Week 5:

The concept of language planning and distinction between status planning and corpus planning in Haugen.

Kloss and the distinction between *abstand-* and *ausbau-*.

Language and politics: the Moldovan example.

Week 6:

Psychological approach: attitudes, ideologies and linguistic identities.

On the diglossic ideology.

Linguistic legislation and the diversity of interactions between language and institutional power: is it possible to change things?

Week 7:

Linguistic approach: Labov and variationism, about Martha's Vineyard.

Types of societies and the idea of stratification; dependent and independent variables.

Week 8:

The social variables. Examples: ethnicity as a central variable + class, gender, religion,...

Week 9:

Territoriality as a variable:

Galician, Asturian and Aragonese as examples: between *ausbau* and *abstand*.

The states. The components of borders:

Geolect

Sociolinguistics

Administrative component as delimitation and intern organisation.

Week 10:

The building of the grammar and of the language of State: the will for order and the process of minorization (capitalist Europe, Illustration, dictionary, *patois*).

On the case of Occitan: the French definition of *patois*.

Gregoire as a explicit case.

The building of the oppositions nature-culture, periphery-centre, etc.

Week 11:

Complexities of diglossia; the idea of ethnicity as an euphemism of minorization.

Week 12:

The division of uses, identification of communicative spaces.

Week 13:

Bourdieu and linguistic capital.

Week 14:

Bakhtinian sociolinguistics.

The analysis in terms of scale and chronotop.

Week 15:

The case of Aranese as a synthesis, with special attention to the school.

Evaluation

Exercises section 1. 30%

Exercises section 2. 30%

Exercises final section. 30%

Attending classes and tutorials, and participation. 10%

If academic fraud or spontaneous copying is detected, we will apply what is established in the Regulations for the Assessment and Grading of Student Learning in UdL Bachelor's and Master's Degrees.

Students who want to ask for alternative assessment must submit an employment contract or justify, in a letter addressed to the dean, the reasons that make it impossible for him/her to carry out the continuous assessment within five (5) days after the beginning of the semester. For information, please send an e-mail to lletres.secretariacentre@udl.cat or ask for information at the Faculty's academic office (Secretaria Acadèmica de la Facultat de Lletres). In case of alternative assessment, percentages are:

Exercises section 1. 30%

Exercises section 2. 30%

Exercises final section. 40%

Bibliography

Aracil, LL. V. (1983): *Dir la realitat*, Barcelona, Països Catalans.

Balibar, R. & D. Laporte (1976): *Burguesía y lengua nacional*, Barcelona, Avance.

- Boix, E. & F. X. Vila (1998): *Sociolingüística de la llengua catalana*, Barcelona, Ariel.
- Goffman, E. (1986): *Frame analysis*, Boston, NUP.
- Holmes, J. (2008): *An introduction to sociolinguistics*, London, Longman.
- Jespersen, O. (1925): *La llengua en la humanitat, la nació i l'individu*, Barcelona, Edicions 62.
- Lamuela, X. (1987): *Català, occità, friulà*, Barcelona, Quaderns Crema.
- Picq, P., L. Sagart et al. (2009): *La història més bonica del llenguatge*, Barcelona, 1984.
- Pinker, S. (1995): *El instinto del lenguaje*, Madrid, Alianza.
- Sapir, E. (1985) *El Llenguatge: introducció a l'estudi de la parla*. Barcelona: Empúries.
- Viana, A. (1995): *Aspectes del pensament sociolingüístic europeu*, Barcelona, Barcanova.