



## Module Descriptor

<b>Title</b>	<b>Sociolinguistics</b>		
<b>Session</b>	2025/26	<b>Status</b>	
<b>Code</b>	LING09014	<b>SCQF Level</b>	9
<b>Credit Points</b>	20	<b>ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)</b>	10
<b>School</b>	<b>Education and Social Sciences</b>		
<b>Module Co-ordinator</b>	K Highet		

### Summary of Module

This module explores language in social contexts. With a focus on the interrelation between language and society across the world, it explores core sociolinguistic theory related to language variation and use. Throughout the module students will gain a detailed understanding of the following in relation to language: variation, style, identity, attitudes, social class and gender, among others. The module will offer students the opportunity to reflect critically on common myths around language use and to relate their knowledge to contexts that they are familiar with. Students will acquire knowledge and understanding of core methodological approaches in sociolinguistics as well as the identification and treatment of sociolinguistic data. By adopting this sociolinguistic perspective on language use, students will develop a nuanced and critical understanding of the interrelation between language, society and inequality, and will use this knowledge to consider how sociolinguistics can inform the wider public around social and language-based issues. The detailed focus on language use will also allow students to enhance their own linguistic practice by developing a deeper sensitivity to the inherent social variability of language, as well as learning how to communicate sociolinguistic knowledge to the wider public.

<b>Module Delivery Method</b>	<b>On-Campus<sup>1</sup></b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Hybrid<sup>2</sup></b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Online<sup>3</sup></b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Work -Based Learning<sup>4</sup></b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Campuses for Module Delivery</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ayr <input type="checkbox"/> Dumfries	<input type="checkbox"/> Lanarkshire <input type="checkbox"/> London <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paisley	<input type="checkbox"/> Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	

<sup>1</sup> Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

<sup>2</sup> The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

<sup>3</sup> Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

<sup>4</sup> Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

<b>Terms for Module Delivery</b>	Term 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Term 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term</b>	Term 1 – Term 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 2 – Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3 – Term 1	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	
<b>L1</b>	Understand and articulate key sociolinguistic theory, with a primary focus on language variation, change, use and attitudes across social contexts
<b>L2</b>	Identify and critically analyse sociolinguistic phenomena in global contexts
<b>L3</b>	Effectively communicate ideas and analysis through oral presentation, in accordance with a rubric
<b>L4</b>	Effectively communicate ideas and analysis through a written task, in accordance with a rubric

<b>Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills</b>	
<b>SCQF Headings</b>	<b>During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:</b>
<b>Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)</b>	<b>SCQF 9</b> Demonstrating a detailed understanding of language variation, change and use across social contexts, and the connection to inequality
<b>Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding</b>	<b>SCQF 9</b> Applying knowledge of key sociolinguistic issues to participate in discussion and debate and inform written production on the topic of language in society. Displaying ability to apply key theoretical concepts from sociolinguistics to explain the world around them.
<b>Generic Cognitive skills</b>	<b>SCQF 9</b> Considering language from a sociolinguistic perspective. Demonstrating critical reflection and analysis of social and political factors of language use
<b>Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills</b>	<b>SCQF 9</b> Making effective and consistent use of the library resources, electronic media, VLE to inform and organise studying and using IT applications to present documents in an appropriate form. Displaying confident and accurate oral presentation skills in accordance with a rubric
<b>Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others</b>	<b>SCQF 9</b> Demonstrating effective study techniques and organisational skills to develop knowledge and complete projects within deadlines. Working cooperatively and accountably with other learners inside and outside class, with an awareness of sociolinguistic factors of communication

<b>Prerequisites</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>
	<b>Other</b>	
<b>Co-requisites</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>

<b>Learning and Teaching</b>	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.	
<b>Learning Activities</b>	<b>Student Learning Hours</b>
During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	(Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	36
Independent Study	164
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>200</b>

<b>Indicative Resources</b>
<p><b>The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:</b></p> <p>Holmes, J. &amp; Wilson, N. (2022). An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. Sixth Edition. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Meyerhoff, M. (2018). Introducing Sociolinguistics (3rd edition). London: Routledge</p> <p>Students will be provided with further materials via the VLE.</p> <p><b>(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)</b></p>

<b>Attendance and Engagement Requirements</b>
<p>In line with the <a href="#">Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure</a>, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.</p> <p><b>For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:</b></p> <p>All fulltime students are required to attend all scheduled classes and participate with all delivered elements of the module as part of their engagement with their programme of study. Consideration will be given to students who have protection under the appropriate equality law. Please refer to UWS Regulations, Chapter 1, 1.64 – 1.67</p>

<b>Equality and Diversity</b>
<p><b>The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: <a href="#">UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code</a>.</b></p> <p>This module forms part of the BA English Language degree. The cohort is a diverse, international group with various language repertoires. Students will be encouraged to share and respectfully respond to their various experiences of the diversity of the English language, relating this to critical discussions of historical and social issues where appropriate. Equality and diversity are key tenets of the sociolinguistic perspective adopted through the module.</p>

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

### Supplemental Information

<b>Divisional Programme Board</b>	<b>Education</b>
<b>Overall Assessment Results</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass / Fail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graded
<b>Module Eligible for Compensation</b>	X Yes No If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.
<b>School Assessment Board</b>	Languages
<b>Moderator</b>	L Holmes
<b>External Examiner</b>	V McDonagh
<b>Accreditation Details</b>	N/A
<b>Module Appears in CPD catalogue</b>	X Yes No
<b>Changes / Version Number</b>	1

<b>Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)</b>
<b>Assessment 1</b>
Presentation (40%)
<b>Assessment 2</b>
Coursework (written assignment) (60%)
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

<b>Component 1</b>							
<b>Assessment Type</b>	<b>LO1</b>	<b>LO2</b>	<b>LO3</b>	<b>LO4</b>		<b>Weighting of Assessment Element (%)</b>	<b>Timetabled Contact Hours</b>
Presentation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		40	3

<b>Component 2</b>							
<b>Assessment Type</b>	<b>LO1</b>	<b>LO2</b>	<b>LO3</b>	<b>LO4</b>		<b>Weighting of Assessment Element (%)</b>	<b>Timetabled Contact Hours</b>
Coursework	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		60	0

<b>Combined total for all components</b>	100%	hours
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Change Control

What	When	Who
Transfer to new template	Oct 24	K Highet