

School of Language Studies

LINGUISTICS GENERAL INFORMATION HANDBOOK

2009

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MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING HEAD OF SCHOOL

Welcome to the School of Language Studies. We offer programmes in East Asian Studies, European Languages, Linguistics and Second Language Teaching and English for Academic Purposes. Our international academic staff includes well-published scholars and experienced lecturers from Eurasia and the Americas as well as Australasia. We provide exciting opportunities to develop proficiency in another language and to learn about linguistic structure, function, and evolution. Most of the School's course offerings have a Web CT presence, and an increasing number of these have been incorporating Wimba voice tools to extend interactive speaking and listening opportunities beyond the physical classroom to extramural learners. The Language Commons lab in MB 3.28 is also being revitalised to facilitate the recording and exchange of audio files for both internal classes and contact courses.

At the Palmerston North campus, the School engages in the internal and extramural teaching of linguistics along with five languages and their cultures: Chinese, French, German, Japanese and Spanish. In addition, the School offers post graduate programmes in Second Language Teaching and Japanese, with options extending from postgraduate diplomas to doctoral studies. English for Academic Purposes and Language and Communication may be studied at any of Massey's three campuses: Palmerston North, Wellington, and Albany. A wide variety of study-abroad programmes present a golden opportunity to students who wish to deepen their intercultural skills overseas.

The focused study of a language opens doors to dynamic international careers beyond the ken of a merely monolingual applicant, providing the edge in many a competitive job search worldwide. Learning a language resembles training for a sport, where skills are mastered for a lifetime and feed into other areas of personal and intellectual growth. As an important part of Massey University's internationalisation strategy, language study provides access to the world views of others across boundaries of time, culture, and geography. Knowledge of other languages and cultures enables us to perceive new horizons, to think globally, and to increase our understanding of ourselves and our neighbours, both in New Zealand and throughout the world.

Professor Paul Spoonley
Acting Head of School
School of Language Studies

HOW TO CONTACT US

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LINGUISTICS BACKGROUND

Papers in Linguistics have been offered at Massey University since 1974, initially as part of the post-graduate Diploma in Second Language Teaching programme. In 1980 Linguistics papers at the undergraduate level were introduced leading to the establishment of a major in Linguistics for the BA degree in 1988.

GENERAL

Linguistics can be defined in simple terms as the study of the forms and functions of language. Because of the vital role that language plays in human communication, an understanding of Linguistics is useful for students who intend making careers in fields such as speech therapy, language teaching, and translation. In addition, Linguistics can directly contribute to a better understanding of the processes at work in cross-cultural communication, which is of increasing importance both within New Zealand and in the context of New Zealand's relations with other countries.

Apart from the practical applications of Linguistics, the subject excites students because of its intrinsic interest. After all, language is essentially a human activity which permeates interpersonal relationships, human organisation and development, and the overall cultural context. Linguistics leads to an awareness of the varied but finite possibilities of the structuring of the world's languages. The study of Linguistics often involves a close examination of data from relatively unfamiliar languages (for example, Chinese dialects, Bantu languages). Of course, Linguistics does not involve learning any of these languages, but rather it involves working with data, arguing for a particular solution to linguistic problems, and developing an accurate use of linguistic terminology. It may also involve students interviewing subjects who speak a language other than English. In the past few years, students have had an opportunity to work with speakers of a language from the Philippines, a Papuan language, and a language of Ghana.

AIMS

- To make students aware of the meaning and resources of language
- To develop skills in linguistic analysis
- To develop awareness of the close relationship between language and culture
- To promote cross-cultural sensitivity
- To develop skills in carrying out research into different areas of language use

STAFF INVOLVED IN THE LINGUISTICS MAJOR

Palmerston North Turitea Campus Staff

Programme Coordinator and PhD Subject Convenor:

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Wellington Campus Staff

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LINGUISTICS MAJOR

A major consisting of ten papers is available for students who wish to specialise in Linguistics. Students can take three first-year papers as a general background to language study, while at the 200-level we begin to develop specific areas of Linguistic Analysis (172.235), Language Learning Processes (172.233), and Language and Society (172.232). Some of the areas we cover in these courses are: how to devise writing systems for languages which have no written tradition; features of New Zealand English like “eh?” at the end of a sentence; and linguistic prejudices. At the 200-level we also offer Forensic Linguistics (172.236) and Language, Discourse and Power (172.237). To complete the major, four 300-level papers must be obtained.

All the first and most of the second year papers are offered in both internal and extramural modes. Many of these courses have an on-line teaching component, WebCT. This tool allows students to not only contact the teaching staff of a paper, but also to interact with other classmates.

The full list of papers in Linguistics is as follows:

	<i>Pre-requisite</i>
172.131 Language and Communication	None
172.132 Language and Culture	None
*172.134 Fundamentals of Language & Language Learning	None
172.232 Language and Society	Any 100-level BA paper
172.233 Language Learning Processes	Any 100-level BA paper
*172.234 Phonetics	Any 100-level BA paper
172.235 Linguistic Analysis	Any 100-level BA paper
172.236 Forensic Linguistics	172.131 or equivalent
172.237 Language, Discourse and Power	Any 100-level BA paper
172.331 Phonology	172.234 or 172.235
*172.332 Syntax and Semantics	172.235
172.334 Field Methods	172.234 or 172.235
172.335 Language & Identity	172.232
172.336 Language of the Pacific	Any 200-level Linguistics paper
*172.337 Historical & Comparative Linguistics	Any 200-level Linguistics paper
*172.381 Special Topic - Linguistics	172.232 or 172.235

Papers from other disciplines:

*169.327 Japanese Linguistics

* Not offered in 2009

Papers Offered in 2009 - Turitea Campus

Linguistics Papers	Mode	Semester
100-level		
172131 Language & Communication	Extramural/Internal	One
172132 Language & Culture	Extramural/Internal	Two
200-level		
172232 Language & Society	Extramural/Internal	One
172233 Language Learning Processes	Extramural/Internal	Two
172235 Linguistic Analysis	Extramural/Internal	One
172236 Forensic Linguistics	Extramural/Internal	Two
172237 Language, Discourse & Power	Internal only	One
172237 Language, Discourse & Power	Extramural only	Two
300-level		
172331 Phonology	Extramural/Internal	Two
172334 Field Methods	Extramural only	One
172334 Field Methods	Internal only	Two
172335 Language and Identity	Extramural/Internal	Two
172336 Languages of the Pacific	Extramural/Internal	One

Papers Offered in 2009 - Wellington Campus

Linguistics Papers	Mode	Semester
172131 Language & Communication	Internal only	One
172132 Language & Culture	Internal only	Two
172232 Language & Society	Internal only	One
172335 Language and Identity	Internal only	Two

To enrol you need to obtain an enrolment pack by contacting:

Web: www.massey.ac.nz/enrol

Email: enrol@massey.ac.nz

Phone: 0800 MASSEY (0800 627 739)

Enrolments for 2009 are open from October 2008. We encourage you to apply early so that the enrolment process can be completed promptly. In any case, you should aim to have your enrolment application completed by the first due date which is mid-December 2008. Enrolments will be accepted after this date, but it is important to try to enrol as early as possible.

Semester Dates 2009

Semester One: 23 February – 20 June

Semester Two: 13 July – 11 November

Double Semester: 23 February – 11 November

172.131 LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION (15 credits)

This paper explores the role of language in communication. It examines the different functions that language fulfils and the various processes involved in formulating and transmitting messages. An analysis is made of the features of language use in a variety of communicative situations.

Prerequisite: None.

Text:

There is no set text.

Study Requirements:

Internal Students:

Attend three hours weekly. A tutorial materials book which includes exercises and supplementary readings is available from the Student Notes Distribution Centre.

Extramural Students:

All study materials including an administration guide, a study guide and a book of supplementary readings are posted to extramural students after enrolment.

Assessment:

Assignments/Tests:	40 %
Examination:	60 %

Turitea Campus Paper Coordinator:

Dr Peter Petrucci

Semester

Semester One

Mode

Extramural/Internal

Wellington Campus Paper Coordinator:

Dr Ellen Soulliere

Semester

Semester One

Mode

Internal only

172.132 LANGUAGE AND CULTURE (15 credits)

The aim of this paper is to demonstrate the interrelationship of language and culture. After considering general aspects of language and culture, specific language groups and their cultures are studied. An overview of language use in different cultural settings then leads to an exploration of some of the practical issues in cross-cultural communication.

Prerequisite: None.

Text:

There is no set text. Each tutorial for internal students will be based on material from a tutorial workbook which has been compiled for this course.

Study Requirements:

Internal Students:

Attend three hours weekly. A tutorial materials book which includes exercises and supplementary readings is available from the Student Notes Distribution Centre.

Extramural Students:

All study materials including an administration guide, and study guides are posted to extramural students after enrolment.

Assessment:

Assignments/Tests:	40 %
Examination:	60 %

Turitea Campus Paper Coordinator:

Professor Cynthia White

Semester

Semester Two

Mode

Extramural/Internal

Wellington Campus Paper Coordinator:

Dr Ellen Soulliere

Semester

Semester Two

Mode

Internal only

172.232 LANGUAGE AND SOCIETY (15 credits)

This paper examines language and society with particular reference to New Zealand: language and social interaction, regional and social variation in language use, bilingualism and the status of minority languages.

Prerequisite: Any 100-level BA paper.

Text:

Holmes, J. 2008 Third Edition. *An introduction to sociolinguistics*. London: Longman.

Study Requirements:

Internal Students:

Attend three hours weekly. A tutorial materials book is available from the Student Notes Distribution Centre.

Extramural Students:

All study materials including an administrative guide, a study guide and a Book of Readings are posted to extramural students after enrolment.

Assessment:

Assignments/Tests:	40 %
Examination:	60 %

Turitea Campus Paper Coordinator:

Dr Peter Petrucci

Semester

Semester One

Mode

Extramural/Internal

Wellington Campus Paper Coordinator:

Dr Martin Paviour-Smith

Semester

Semester One

Mode

Internal only

172.233 LANGUAGE LEARNING PROCESSES (15 credits)

The paper examines first and second language learning. It covers the major processes involved in language learning, theories explaining language learning and factors influencing language learning. Comparisons and contrasts between first and second language learning are drawn.

Prerequisite: Any 100-level BA paper.

Text:

There is no set text. A book of materials is available from the Student Notes Distribution Centre.

Study Requirements:

Internal Students:

Attend three hours weekly.

Extramural Students:

All study materials including an administration guide, a study guide and a Book of Readings are posted to extramural students after enrolment.

Assessment:

Assignments:	50 %
Examination:	50 %

Paper Coordinator:

Dr Gillian Skyrme

Semester

Semester Two

Mode

Extramural/Internal

172.235 LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS (15 credits)

An introduction to the analysis of the structural properties of human language at all levels of linguistic enquiry. Data for analysis will be from English and other languages.

Prerequisite: Any 100-level BA paper.

Text:

There are no set texts. A book of readings is available from the Student Notes Distribution Centre.

Study Requirements:

Internal Students:

Attend three hours of lecture/tutorial weekly.

Extramural Students:

An administrative guide, study guide and a book of readings compiled for the course are posted to extramural students after enrolment.

Assessment:

Assignments/Tests:	45 %
Examination:	55 %

Paper Coordinator:

Dr Peter Petrucci

Semester

Semester One

Mode

Extramural/Internal

172.236 FORENSIC LINGUISTICS (15 credits)

An introduction to the study of forensic linguistics, the application of linguistics to forensic purposes, including speaker and authorship identification, issues of trademark infringement and product liability, and language use in the courtroom.

Prerequisite: 172.131 or equivalent.

Text:

There is no set text.

Study Requirements:

Internal students:

Attend three hours weekly. A book of readings is available from the Student Notes Distribution Centre.

Extramural Students:

An administrative guide, study guide and a book of readings compiled for the course are posted to extramural students after enrolment.

Assessment:

Assignments:	50 %
Examination:	50 %

Paper Coordinator:

Dr Peter Petrucci

Semester
Semester Two

Mode
Extramural/Internal

172.237 LANGUAGE, DISCOURSE AND POWER (15 credits)

This paper provides an introduction to critical discourse analysis and explores how positions and attitudes are mediated through language, analysing language use in contexts such as the work place and organisations, racist discourse and the tensions and practices within intercultural and intergenerational communication.

Prerequisite: Any 100-level BA paper

Text:

There is no set text.

Study Requirements:

Attend three hours weekly. A book of readings is available from the Student Notes Distribution Centre.

Assessment: 100% Internal

Paper Coordinator:

Professor Cynthia White

Semester
Semester One

Mode
Internal only

Semester
Semester Two

Mode
Extramural only

172.331 PHONOLOGY (15 credits)

This course is an introduction to phonology, the study of the sound systems of the world's languages. Primary attention is given to analysing phonological data from a variety of languages.

Prerequisite: 172.234 or 172.235.

Text:

Odden, David. 2005. *Introducing Phonology*.
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Study Requirements:

Internal students:

Attend three hours weekly. A book of readings and tutorial material for the course will be available from the Student Notes Distribution Centre.

Extramural students:

An administration guide, and a study guide compiled for the course will be posted to extramural students after enrolment.

Assessment:

Assignments/Tests:	50%
Examination:	50%

Paper Coordinator:

Dr Peter Petrucci

Semester
Semester Two

Mode
Extramural/Internal

172.334 FIELD METHODS (15 credits)

This paper examines techniques used in the elicitation of linguistic data from speakers. As part of the requirements for this course, students will interview one or more speakers of a designated language other than English. The assessment in this course will be related to the material collected during the interviews which are held in class throughout the semester.

Prerequisite: 172.234 or 172.235.

Study Requirements:

Internal students:

Attend three hours weekly.

Extramural students:

This course is web-based. Students will keep an online journal of their activities. Study materials including an administrative guide and a book of readings will be posted on enrolment.

Assessment: 100 % Internal

Paper Coordinator:

Dr Martin Paviour-Smith

Semester

Semester One

Mode

Extramural only

Semester

Semester Two

Mode

Internal only

172.335 LANGUAGE AND IDENTITY (15 credits)

This paper explores how language is used to show aspects of identity relevant to particular social interactions, including age, gender, ethnicity and sexuality. It examines the way individuals may have membership in multiple communities and may juggle the identities they present.

Prerequisite: 172.232.

Study Requirements:

Internal Students:

Attend three hours weekly

Study materials are available from Student Notes

Extramural Students:

This course is web-based. All study materials including an administrative guide, a study guide and a Book of Readings are posted to extramural students after enrolment.

Assessment: 100 % Internal

Turitea Campus Paper Coordinator:

Dr Martin Paviour-Smith

Semester

Semester Two

Mode

Extramural/Internal

Wellington Campus Paper Coordinator:

Dr Martin Paviour-Smith

Semester

Semester Two

Mode

Internal only

172.336 LANGUAGES OF THE PACIFIC (15 credits)

This paper explores the language situation in the Pacific and the formal elements of three major language subgroups spoken there. It examines the relationship between language and society and the linguistic consequences of the encounter between Pacific peoples and speakers of non-Pacific languages.

Prerequisite: Any 200-level Linguistics paper.

Study Requirements:

Extramural Students:

All study materials including an administrative guide, a study guide and a Book of Readings are posted to extramural students after enrolment.

Assessment: 100 % Internal

Paper Coordinator:

Dr Martin Paviour-Smith

Semester
Semester One

Mode
Extramural/Internal

A SHORT LIST OF INTRODUCTORY BOOKS IN LINGUISTICS

Aitchison, Jean. 1996. *The seeds of speech: language origin and evolution*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [This is a well written and up-to-date introduction to a wide range of linguistic issues.]

Akmajian, Adrian et al. 2001. *Linguistics: an introduction to language and communication*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press. [This text covers a range of topics, including a detailed discussion of linguistics' role in cognitive science.]

Crystal, David (ed.). 1997. *The Cambridge encyclopedia of language*. Second edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [This is a very attractive and highly readable book introducing the reader to all the areas of linguistics. It includes lots of diagrams, photographs, and interesting facts.]

Emmitt, Marie, & Poolock, John. 1991. *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [This book is written specifically for teachers who wish to learn more about language.]

Finegan, Edward et al. 2002. *Language: its structure and use*. Sydney: Thomson. [One of the few texts written for an Australia-New Zealand audience, Finegan et al address many aspects of linguistics, two of which, register variation and language typology, have received less attention by other texts.]

Gordon, Elizabeth, & Deverson, Tony. 1985. *New Zealand English: an introduction to New Zealand speech and usage*. Auckland: Heinemann. [As the title says, this book focuses on the use of English in New Zealand. It is written in a lively and entertaining style.]