

CBCT/CBCS courses offered by the Centre

LE223: Language, Society and Endangerment

L3 T0 P0 CH3 CR3

Course Objectives

The objective of the course is to impart a thorough knowledge of

1. what language is and study the various components that constitutes a language
2. the relationship between language and society from a sociolinguistic perspective.
3. defining language endangerment and the role that society plays in it.

Course Outline

Language:

Defining Language;

Communicative Function of Language;

Characteristic Features of Language;

Structure of Language;

Relation between-

Syntagmatic and Paradigmatic,

Langue and Parole,

Competence and Performance,

Etic and Emic,

Form and Substance.

Language and Society:

Defining Sociolinguistics;

Language Variation- Accent, Dialect, Idiolect, Diglossia;

Standard and Vernacular Language;

Monolingual, Bilingual, Multilingual;

Code Switching, Code Mixing;

Language and Ethnicity;

Language and Identity;

Language and Ideology;

Language and Power;

Language Endangerment:

Language Vitality & Endangerment;
Language Vitality Assessment;
Relationship between Language Endangerment and Society;
The Role of the Speech Community;
Language Attitudes and Policies;
Assessing Language Endangerment and Urgency for Documentation.

Textbook

Austin Peter K. 2004. Language documentation and description, Vol. 2, SOAS, London.

Essential Readings:

Christopher J Hall. 2008. An Introduction to Language and Linguistics. New York: Continuum

Fasold R. 1984. The sociolinguistics of Society. Oxford: Blackwell

Hudson, R.A. 1980. Sociolinguistics, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Myers-Scotton, Carol. 2006. Multiple Voices. An Introduction to Bilingualism. Oxford: Blackwell

John Lyons. 1981. Language and Linguistics, an Introduction, Cambridge University Press.

Braj B. Kachru, Yamuna Kachru and S.N. Sridhar. 2008. Language in South Asia, Cambridge University Press.