

LING 3045: Grammar of Contemporary American English

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 1102

This course surveys both traditional and contemporary approaches to grammar. It addresses long-established grammatical terms and concepts, inviting students to critically examine the notion of "correct" grammar and to discuss the development and maintenance of standard language. It also considers contemporary topics such as rhetorical grammar, functional grammar, and grammar in digital environments. This course is particularly useful for students considering careers in education, editing, or professional writing.

LING 3050: Sociolinguistics

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 1102

This course is an introduction to English sociolinguistics. It surveys how language is impacted by social variables such as ethnicity, gender, age, sexuality, and geography. It also explores topics including slang, jargon, dialect, identity, and power. Students are introduced to the basic subfields of linguistics—phonology, morphology, and syntax—before venturing into deeper sociolinguistic issues. The course should interest students pursuing careers in education, writing, business—and those wanting to expand their knowledge of linguistics.

LING 3055: Politics and Language

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: ENGL 1102

This course surveys a number of the most important intersections between linguistics and politics in American and global cultures today. Topics may include the "English only" movement; political correctness; the politics of gendered language; framing theory and the language of American political debate; language, ideology, and discourse analysis; and the politics of English as a "global" language. This class may be of particular interest to students heading towards careers in journalism, law, politics, or education.