Applied Linguistics

(Graduate Course, Spring 2026)

- Course Schedule: 5~8PM (Wednesdays)
- Instructor: Miran Kim (mirankim316@gmail.com)
- Online classroom: https://applied-linguistics.streamlit.app

❦ Course overview

This course provides in-service English teachers with a framework for navigating the modern landscape of applied linguistics. Participants will interrogate language use within complex communicative environments, focusing on the transformative impact of digital tools and artificial intelligence on professional practice. While applied linguistics has traditionally addressed sociolinguistic and pedagogical concerns, contemporary developments call for closer attention to how algorithmic mediation and digital platforms reshape meaning-making, interaction, and classroom conditions. Rather than viewing technology as a peripheral supplement, the course conceptualizes digital and AI literacies as core competencies for contemporary language professionals. Moving beyond theoretical abstraction, the curriculum integrates project-based inquiry throughout the course. Participants engage in collaborative development by designing and constructing purpose-built web-based applications for specific language teaching contexts. These development tasks serve as a practical lens for examining how digital architectures influence learner engagement and instructional design. Rather than serving as technical training in isolation, the projects provide a site for critical reflection on language use, professional agency, and the linguistic implications of software design. By connecting conceptual discussion with hands-on project work, the course supports in-service teachers in formulating informed, context-sensitive responses to the technological pressures reshaping education.

❦ Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Understand applied linguistics in relation to digital and AI-mediated language use
- Examine how digital tools reshape classroom interaction and professional practice
- Develop foundational digital and AI literacy through project-based work
- Design simple web-based tools for language teaching purposes
- Reflect critically on professional responses to technological change

❦ Course Materials

- Selected readings:
- Python coding (Github, Colab)

❦ Course Requirements & Evaluation

1. Assignments: Textbook reading, in-class discussions, Exercises (30%)
2. Midterm (30%)
3. Mini-projects and final presentations (30%): Perception experiment
4. Course Participation (10%)

Key Topics:

- **Introduction to Praat**: Exploring the design and compilation of text corpora.
- **Acoustics and auditory phonetics:** Sound analysis
- **Perception experiment settings**: Conducting phonetic research

- **Basic Python Coding for data analysis**: Introduction to Python programming for text analysis. Simple coding exercises to familiarize with Python syntax and libraries like NLTK.

❦AI Ethics and Course Policy

1. **Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Classwork and Assignments**: Students are encouraged to actively utilize generative AI technologies in their coursework and assignments. However, it is mandatory to clearly cite the source and extent of AI usage. This transparency is crucial for maintaining academic integrity and ensuring the responsible use of AI tools. The use of AI should complement, not replace, the student's own analysis and critical thinking.

❦ Weekly Schedule and assignments

There will be reading assignments (TBA)

Weeks	Date	Topic(s)	Reading / Preview / Discussion
Week 01	Mar. 6	Introduction; Course overview; Ch.1	
Week 02	Mar. 13	Ch.1 Basics and acoustic filters	
Week 03	Mar. 20	(continued)	
Week 04	Mar. 27	Ch.2 The acoustic theory of speech	
Week 05	Apr. 3	(continued)	
Week 06	Apr. 10	(continued)	Article presentation & discussions
Week 07	Apr. 17	Ch.3 Digital signal processing	Article presentation & discussions
Week 08	Apr. 24	(continued)	Article presentation & discussions
Week 09	*May 1	Midterm (TBA)	
Week 10	May 8	Ch.4 Basic audition	
Week 11	May 15	(continued)	
Week 12	May 22	Ch.5 Speech perception	
Week 13	May 29	(continued)	
Week 14	June 5	(Ch.6 Vowels; TBA)	
Week 15	June 12	(Ch.7 Fricatives; TBA)	
Week 16	June 19	Final presentation	

* Week 09: May 1 (Thursday) Labor day

Updated schedule