

Applied Linguistics

(Graduate Course, Spring 2026)

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



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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:**
[1] Davies, A. (2007). An introduction to applied linguistics: From practice to theory (2nd edition). Edinburgh University Press. [2] Journal articles (TBA)
- **Digital tools and platforms:** Python, Github, Google Colab, Streamlit, Huggingface (*Note that students are required to create free accounts for selected platforms.)

Course Requirements & Evaluation

1. Attendance & course Participation (30%): readings & in-class discussions and presentation
2. Group projects (40%): 1) Mini-projects, 2) Lesson design with digital tools, 3) Reflection
3. Squib writing (30%): mini-research paper with a pilot study (5 ~ 6 pages)

AI Ethics and Course Policy

Students are encouraged to use generative AI tools in classwork and assignments, provided that all AI use is clearly acknowledged. The source and scope of AI assistance must be transparently documented to maintain academic integrity. AI tools should support, rather than replace, students' own analysis and critical thinking.