Course Handbook

LASC08023
Linguistics and English Language 1B

January – May 2020

Course Organiser
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Course Secretary
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1. Welcome to LEL1B

Welcome to Linguistics and English Language 1B! This course picks up where Linguistics and English Language 1A left off, and both develops some of the material that you learnt there and also introduces some areas of the study of Linguistics and English Language that you won't have encountered before. (You should not take LEL1B, therefore, if you did not either take LEL1A or have a suitable background from study elsewhere.) You will learn more about the ways in which linguistic methodologies and theories allow us to understand language in general, and you will learn more about the structure and history of English. You will also learn about how we can make sense of the ways in which language varies in use, and you will learn what Sign Language is and how it compares to Spoken Language.

The course lasts for one semester and is worth 20 credits. All courses at the university have 'Intended Learning Outcomes', which explain what the course should enable you to do. These are written in the official course documentation (so you will find them also there). For this course, if you complete it successfully, we expect that you will be able to understand:

1. the principles for the systematic study of word and sentence meaning (examples may come from different languages but illustration is primarily through the medium of English)
2. aspects of how context affects meaning (examples may come from different languages but illustration is primarily through the medium of English)
3. the principles for the description of grammatical structure and the structure of words, phrases and sentences, and how they can be applied to describe English and other languages
4. the principles for the description of the sounds and sound systems used in languages around the world, and how they can be applied to describe English
5. how languages vary and change over time, and that you will be able to discuss in these terms the history of English, with insight into how English varies around the English-speaking world

There is other important information in the course **Learn** site (see section 7 of this handbook), and the official documentation for the course can be found in its DRPS entry, available here: `http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/19-20/dpt/cxlasc08023.htm`

2. Contacts

You will have four main types of contacts for the course. You should feel free to ask us if you have any questions about the course, but do check the information in this handbook and on the course Learn site (see section 7 of this handbook) first, to see if the answer to your question can be found there. Also, do try to direct your question to the right person (but don't worry too much about this — we do want to hear from you, and we will redirect your question to the right person if we need to). The people you will meet running the course are:

- the Course Organiser, **Patrick Honeybone**, who is responsible for the overall organisation of the course from an academic perspective, and for moderating the marking on the course
- o patrick.honeybone@ed.ac.uk, room 3.06 DSB
- the Course Secretary, **Susan Hermiston**, who is responsible for administrative issues, such as receiving assessment (through Learn), setting up tutor groups and room bookings
- o lelinfo@ed.ac.uk, room G.06 DSB
- your **Tutor**, who will run the weekly tutorials that you will need to attend to discuss the material covered on the course, and who also mark your assignments and exams
- o you should make sure that you take down the contact details of your tutor at the first tutorial, but their contact details are also available on the course **Learn** site (under 'Tutorial Information')

- you will also meet six **Course Lecturers** (one of whom is also the Course Organiser), who are responsible the content that you will cover on the course – they prepare and give the lectures, set reading and write the assessment for the course, and they are also involved in the moderation of the marking of the assignment and exam
- there are seven blocks of teaching on the course, each taken by a Course Lecturer:

1. **Pragmatics**. This block introduces the study of meaning in language, focusing on the meaning of utterances in context.
   - **Course Lecturer**: Catherine Lai (CL), c.lai@ed.ac.uk, room 3.26, Informatics Forum
2. **Semantics**. This block continues the study of meaning, focusing on word meanings and logical implications.
   - **Course Lecturer**: Wataru Uegaki (WU), w.uegaki@ed.ac.uk, room 2.10 DSB
3. **Syntax**. This block picks up from the Syntax and Morphology blocks on LEL1A and takes you further in your understanding of them.
   - **Course Lecturer**: Caroline Heycock (CH), caroline.heycock@ed.ac.uk, room 2.10A, DSB
4. **Phonology**. This block picks up from the study of Phonetics in LEL1A and moves on to show how linguists study the way in which sounds pattern in languages.
   - **Course Lecturer**: Patrick Honeybone (PH), patrick.honeybone@ed.ac.uk, room 3.06 DSB
5. **Sociolinguistics**. This block introduces the study of social variation in language, picking up on some issues covered in the study of dialectology in LEL1A.
   - **Course Lecturer**: Josef Fruehwald (JF), josef.frueh@ed.ac.uk, room 2.11 DSB
6. **Historical Linguistics**. This block picks up from the study of language change in LEL1A and takes you further in your understanding of past stages of languages.
   - **Course Lecturer**: Michael Ramsammy (MR), m.ramsammy@ed.ac.uk, room 3.03 DSB
7. **Sign Language Linguistics**. This block introduces the study of Sign Languages, explaining some aspects of their structure and use.
   - **Course Lecturer**: Michael Ramsammy (MR), m.ramsammy@ed.ac.uk, room 3.03 DSB

If you have questions about the content of a lecture, you should ask the lecturer who gave it. You can ask them at the end of a lecture, go to their office hours, or email them (if you email them a question, you should allow a reasonable time for them to reply — this could be several days as we all gets lots of email!). All lecturers' rooms are in the Dugald Stewart Building (DSB), apart from Catherine Lai, who is in the Informatics Forum. Lecturers office hours are an opportunity when you can drop by with questions (ask the lecturer if you can't find out when their office hours are), or else you can make an appointment with them. Your tutor is also likely to be able to clarify course issues for you or to direct you to the appropriate person. If you have questions not specifically about lecture content, you should speak to the Course Secretary, and if you don't know who to ask about a question, you can always try the Course Organiser.

If you have an **illness** or problem that prevents you from attending classes for more than three days you should inform your Personal Tutor as soon as you can. Alternatively, if you are a student registered in the school of PPLS, you may contact one of the school's Student Support Officers – you can find their details here:
`https://www.ed.ac.uk/ppls/linguistics-and-english-language/current/undergraduate/student-support/student-support-office`

If illness seriously affects your written work or class attendance, or makes you unable to attend the exam, then you must supply the course secretary with written medical evidence as soon as possible. You should also notify your Personal Tutor and submit a Special Circumstances application through them.

3. Lecture times, locations and plan

There are **three** lectures each week for this course, and **one** tutorial. All of these sessions are **obligatory**, and it is important that you attend them **all**. Many of the lectures will build directly on material from previous lectures, as will tutorials. The tutorials will give you an opportunity to discuss material discussed in lectures and to ask any questions that you might have about it.

The lecture times and locations are as follows:

Day	Time	Location
Monday	15:10 - 16:00	Appleton Tower, Lecture Theatre 5
Tuesday	10:00 - 10:50	50 George Square, Lecture Theatre G.03
Thursday	10:00 - 10:50	Appleton Tower, Lecture Theatre 5

The basic lecture plan for the course is as follows:

Week beginning	Lecture 1 Monday 15:10 - 16:00	Lecture 2 Tuesday 10.00-10.50	Lecture 3 Thursday 10.00-10.50	**Tutorial**
Week 1 (13/01/20)	**Course Introduction** PH **Pragmatics** CL	**Pragmatics** CL	**Pragmatics** CL	**[no tutorial]**
Week 2 (20/01/20)	**Semantics** WU	**Semantics** WU	**Semantics** WU	(tutorial 1) *Pragmatics* CL
Week 3 (27/01/20)	**Semantics** WU	**Semantics** WU	**Semantics** WU	(tutorial 2) *Semantics* WU
Week 4 (03/02/20)	**Syntax** CH	**Syntax** CH	**Syntax** Peter Ackema	(tutorial 3) *Semantics* WU
Week 5 (10/02/20)	**Syntax** CH	**Syntax** CH	**Assignment Guidance** PH, CL, WU, CH	(tutorial 4) *Syntax* CH
(17/02/20)	**Innovative**	**Learning**	**Week**	**[no classes]**
Week 6 (24/02/20)	**Phonology** PH	**Phonology** PH	**Phonology** PH	(tutorial 5) *Syntax* CH
Week 7 (02/03/20)	**Phonology** PH	**Phonology** PH	**Phonology** PH	(tutorial 6) *Phonology* [PH]
Week 8 (09/03/20)	**Sociolinguistics** JF	**Sociolinguistics** JF	**Sociolinguistics** JF	(tutorial 7) *Phonology* [PH]
Week 9 (16/03/20)	**Sociolinguistics** JF	**Sociolinguistics** JF	**Sociolinguistics** JF	(tutorial 8) *Sociolinguistics* JF
Week 10 (23/03/20)	**Historical Linguistics** MR	**Historical Linguistics** MR	**Historical Linguistics** MR	(tutorial 9) *Sociolinguistics* JF
Week 11 (30/03/20)	**Sign Language Linguistics** MR	**Sign Language Linguistics** MR	**Course wrap-up and exam preparation** PH	(tutorial 10) *Historical Linguistics* MR

4. Reading and working on the course

As for all courses, we expect that you will be doing a good amount of work outside of class, too. The normal expectation is that you should do around three hours of independent study for each hour of contact time. We expect you to spend this time reading for the course, working through your lecture notes, and preparing for the tutorials. Some of the lecturers on the course blocks will give more detailed reading nearer the time that they teach on the course, but here is some background reading:

1. **Pragmatics** and 2. **Semantics**
Recommended background reading for pragmatics and semantics is Chapter 6 of O'Grady, Archibald, Aronoff & Rees-Miller (2017) *Contemporary Linguistics: An Introduction* (any edition of this book should be fine). The chapter is entitled *Semantics and Pragmatics: the Analysis of Meaning*. There are multiple copies of this book in the library, including several in the HUB.

3. **Syntax**
You may find it useful to read through the chapter on Syntax in O'Grady, Archibald, Aronoff & Rees-Miller (2017) *Contemporary Linguistics: An Introduction* (any edition of this book should be fine), but you will find that there is some terminology there that we will not be using, so bear this in mind to avoid confusion when reading.

If you don't feel entirely confident about syntactic categories / word classes / 'parts of speech', a good way to get (back) up to speed is to look at the first section of UCL's *Internet Grammar of English* (the section headed 'Word Classes'). This online resource includes some interaction exercises and is available here:

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https://www.ucl.ac.uk/internet-grammar/intro/intro.htm
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4. **Phonology**
Essential background reading:
- Carr, Philip. 2013. *English Phonetics and Phonology: an Introduction*. Second edition. Malden & Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.
o chapters 5 and 7
- Hayes, Bruce. 2009. *Introductory phonology*. Malden & Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.
o chapter 14 – focus on the early sections (about up to the middle of section 14.3)
Both of these books are available electronically and in hard copies through the library.

5. **Sociolinguistics**
[to follow]

6. **Historical Linguistics**
Required reading:
- Campbell, Lyle (2013) *Historical Linguistics: an Introduction*. Third Edition. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
o chapters 2 and 5

7. **Sign Language Linguistics**
Required reading:
- Johnston, Trevor & Adam Schembri (2007) *Australian Sign Language: an Introduction to Sign Language Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
o chapters 1 and 2

5. Tutorials

Everyone taking the course will be allocated to a tutorial group at the start of semester. Tutorial groups meet on **Thursday** or **Friday** and last for 50 minutes. **You will be automatically allocated to a tutorial group that will fit with your timetable**. Should you need to change your allocated group, please request this via Timetabling (check with the Course Secretary if you don't know how to do this).

The lecturer listed against each tutorial in the lecture plan will be responsible for providing tutorial activities and course tutors will discuss them with you in your tutorial. Tutorial activities should be given out by the Monday of each week's tutorial and you will need to prepare them **before** the tutorial – you should **write out** answers to the activities and bring them with you to the tutorial. Tutorials are designed to reinforce what you have covered in the lectures, to give you practice in analysing linguistic data and to give you an idea of the kinds of questions you will be given in the assessment for the course.

Attendance at tutorials is **compulsory**. You must notify your tutor and the Course Secretary if you are unable to attend your tutorial **in advance of your tutorial session** if possible (ideally by email – see section 2 of this handbook for how to find your tutor's contact details). When emailing, please ensure that you put the name of the course you are on plus the tutorial session you were due to attend.

6. Assessment

There are two pieces of assessment for this course.

(i)   an assignment on a topic from the first half of the course
*   worth 50% of the marks for the course
*   distributed in week 5
*   hand-in date: **Wednesday 4th March 2020 at noon**
*   submission is electronic only – you will need to log onto the course **Learn site** and submit your assignment through a link there (full instructions on how to do this are on Learn – see section 7 of this handbook for details of Learn)

(ii) a written exam (2 hours) with multiple-choice questions on all aspects of the course and an essay on a topic from the second half of the course
*   worth 50% of the marks for the course
*   takes place in the semester 2 exam period

These pieces of assessment will be marked and moderated in the department and then further moderated by an external examiner. They will be marked in line with the university's common marking scheme, which is set out in the PPLS Undergraduate Student Handbook (available through the course Learn site). We will aim to provide results and feedback within **four working weeks** of the submission date for the mid-semester assignment. The assessment arrangements for visiting undergraduates are the same as for all other students. The department is always ready to co-operate with arrangements made to permit students with Schedules of Adjustment to sit examinations and to submit assessed coursework.

The final mark for LEL1B is calculated on the basis of the two items of assessment. To pass the course, a final **overall** mark of 40% or above is needed. Your final mark will be ratified by an exam board in June 2020 before being published on your MyEd account by Registry. If your final mark for the course is below 40%, you will be required to take a resit exam in the August resit period, covering material from the entire course.

If you have any questions about marked coursework or the written feedback provided, check with the Course Organiser.

7. Learn and lecture recordings

'Learn' is the name of the university's virtual learning environment. It is accessible through MyEd, and all students registered on the course should have automatic access to the LEL1B Learn site. Lecturers will place lecture notes and sometimes readings and other material on the course Learn site and it will be used to make course announcements. You will need to submit the mid-semester assignment through Learn, and you can check arrangements for tutorials there, too. You should make sure that you check the LEL1B Learn site regularly.

There is a link to the lecture recordings that are made for LEL1B from the LEL1B Learn site. All lectures are scheduled to be recorded apart from those for the Historical Linguistics block and the Sign Language Linguistics block. Lecture recordings can be a good way to check your understanding of a lecture, but it is crucial that you attend all lectures in person, and that you take notes while there. Lecture recordings do not necessarily record everything said or written on a board during a lecture, and they are no substitute for being in the room when a lecture is given.