
This is the study programme for 2017/2018. It is subject to change.

This course is based on the introductory courses in English and provides the student with advanced knowledge of two sub-disciplines within English studies: Linguistics and literature. Through this course, the students will gain sufficient knowledge to be able to choose a topic and develop a thesis statement for a bachelor thesis within one of the sub-disciplines the following semester.

FACTS

Course code: ENG270_1

Credits (ECTS) : 15

Semester tuition start:

Autumn

Duration: 1

Exam semester: Autumn

Language of instruction:

English

Offered by: Faculty of Arts and Education, Department of Cultural Studies and Languages

Learning outcome

Knowledge

Upon completion of the course, the students will have gained knowledge of

- Dialect, standard language and language variation
- Gender, age and social class as factors influencing speech variation
- Language contact and language change
- Various tendencies in British society and culture in the Nineteenth Century
- Factors controlling and influencing the development and understanding of phenomena such as 'monstrosity' and 'normality'

- Theoretical approaches to literary texts and cultural expression in a broad sense

Skills

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- Reflect upon central theories, concepts and perspectives within the fields of sociolinguistics and literature and madness
- Evaluate the importance of the different sub-disciplines within English studies as a whole
- Describe various levels of speech variation
- Analyse speech variation in relation to social variables, such as gender, age, social class and region, and discuss different attitudes to language
- Describe and explain central aspects of society and literature in the Nineteenth century
- Analyse and evaluate concepts of 'monster' and 'monstrosity' in a given cultural context

General competencies

Upon completion of the course, the students:

- will have mastered the two sub-disciplines to such an extent that they are able to choose a

- topic for their BA thesis within one of the two sub-disciplines
- will be able to express themselves correctly and academically both written and orally

Contents

Sociolinguistics

This part of the Engelsk Fordypning course will provide students with an insight into the field of sociolinguistics and speech variation. The main focus will be on the following concepts: dialect, standard language and correctness, speech variation based on social variables such as social class and gender, language contact and multilingualism, and language change. The main goal will be to raise students' awareness of the influence of the social and cultural contexts on speech variation.

Literature and the Monstrous

This part of the Engelsk Fordypning course will provide students with an insight into mainly Nineteenth Century literature, with a particular focus on how the chosen texts can be read in the light of the concept of the monster and the monstrous. Through the study of novels, prose and theoretical texts, the students will examine how liminal elements in such a highly regulated and normative society as the Nineteenth Century are expressed and how these elements are placed within categories of monstrosity. This will be discussed both from social and individual perspectives, for instance, in relation to women's attempts to escape rigidly defined gender roles, sexual orientation or behaviour that does not conform to the norms, and through other personal actions that challenge the concept of 'normality' and become associated with the monstrous. The course will also examine concepts of 'monsters' and 'monstrosity' from theoretical and critical perspectives.

Required prerequisite knowledge

One of the following alternatives:

- ENG100 Introduction to the English Language, ENG105 British and Irish Literature, ENG140 The Sounds of English, ENG165 American Literature and Culture, ENG180 Uses of English with didactics
- ENG100 Introduction to the English Language, ENG140 The Sounds of English, ENG165 American Literature and Culture, ENG180 Uses of English with didactics
- ENG115 An Introduction to Literature in English, ENG145 Introduction to the English language, ENG175 American Literature and Culture
- ENG115 An Introduction to Literature in English, ENG175 American Literature and Culture, ENG195 English Phonetics and Phonology
- ENG115 An Introduction to Literature in English, ENG145 Introduction to the English language, ENG195 English Phonetics and Phonology
- ENG145 Introduction to the English language, ENG175 American Literature and Culture, ENG195 English Phonetics and Phonology

Other course combinations may be approved if they are equivalent.

Students must have a minimum of 50 ECTS in introductory English courses or equivalent in order to begin the specialization.

BA students must have a minimum of 45 ECTS in introductory English courses or equivalent in order to begin the specialization.

Exam

Home exam and oral exam

	Weight	Duration	Mark	Supporting materials
Oral exam	1/2	30 minutes	A - F	
Home exam	1/2	3 days	A - F	All.

Home exam (Literature) and oral exam (Sociolinguistics).

Both exams need to be passed in order to get the final course grade.

English language and academic writing skills are taken into account in the grading, as well as the course content.

Coursework requirements

Group research project

The group research project in Sociolinguistics must be presented in class and must be passed in order to be admitted to the exam in Sociolinguistics.

Subject teacher(s)

Course coordinator

Brita Strand Rangnes

Course teacher

Oliver Martin Traxel

Programme coordinator

Anne Siri Norland, Karen Marie Espeland, Signe Ekenberg

Method of work

Lectures.

Overlapping courses

Course	Reduction (credits)
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Course	Reduction (credits)
Specialization in English Language and Literature (ENG250_1)	10

Open to

Open to students accepted into the Bachelor programme (or Specialization) in English Language and Literature at the Department of Cultural Studies and Languages, provided that they have the prerequisite knowledge. Open to exchange students. Other students must apply within the given deadlines.

Course assessment

Quality control by students is a central element of the UiS plan to improve teaching. In the Department of Cultural Studies and Languages this system includes student evaluation of courses.

Literature

Sociolinguistics

Selected chapters from:

Wardhaugh, Ronald & Janet M. Fuller 2015. An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. Seventh edition. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

Literature

Emily Brontë, Wuthering Heights

Joseph Conrad: Heart of Darkness

Charles Dickens, Great Expectations

*Charlotte Perkins Gilman, The Yellow Wallpaper (compendium)

Henry James, "The Turn of the Screw"

*Florence Nightingale, Excerpt from Cassandra (compendium)

Edgar Allen Poe: The Fall of the House of Usher

Robert L. Stevenson, The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

Oscar Wilde: The Picture of Dorian Gray

In addition, a selection of theoretical, critical and literary texts will be available at the start of the semester.

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