

Isra University Faculty of Arts Department of English and Translation 2014/2015

Teaching Plan

Course Title: Sociolinguistics Instructor: Majed Hamdan

Section No.: 1 Semester: Summer

Course No.:108430 Office Hours: 11:00-12:30

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Course Description & Objective:

In this course sociolinguistics is taught as a branch of linguistics that studies language in relation to society. In this sense, the language used tends to vary. This variation is the result of many different factors such as; religion, age, ethnicity, sex, etc. Thus, language used by men differs from that used by women and the language used by adults differs from that used by youngsters. It shows that the combination of these components bears influence on language acquisition and language use.

Main Textbooks:

Title: An Introduction to Sociolinguistics

Author: Janet Holmes

Publisher: Longman, London, and New York

Supporting books & periodicals:

- 1. Coates, J. (ed)(1997) Language and Gender: A Reader. Oxford, Blackwell.
- 2. Edwards, A.D. (1976) Language in Culture and Class. London, Heinemann.
- 3. Fishman, Joshua A. (1991) Reversing Language Shift. Clevedon, Avon: Multilingual Matters.
- 4. Guperz, John J. (ed)(1983) Language and Social Identity.
- 5. Holmes, Janet (1998) "Paying Compliments: a sex-preferential positive politeness strategy." Journal of Pragmatics. 12,3:445-65
- 6. Labove, William (1990) "The intersection of sex and social class in the course of linguistic change." Language Variation and Change. 2,3:205-54
- 7. Romaine, Suzan (2000) Language in Society: An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. 2nd edition. Oxford University Press.
- 8. Suleiman, Yasir. (ed) (1994) Arabic Sociolinguistics: Issues and Perspectives.
- 9. Tannen, Deborah (ed.) (1993) Gender and Conversational Interaction.

- 10. Trudgill, Peter (1996) Sociolinguistics: An Introduction to Language and Society.
- 11. Wardhaugh, Ronald (1997) Introduction to Sociolinguistics. Blackwell

Week	Dates	Ch. & PP.	Remarks
First	26-29/7/2015	What is Sociolinguistics?	
Second	2-5/8/2015	Sociolinguistics and Language Variation	
Third	11-13/8/2015	Language in Society	First Exam
Fourth	16-19/8/2015	General Rules and Individual Use	
Fifth	23-25/8/2015	Sociolinguistic Differences	Second Exam
Sixth	30-8/2-9/2015	Speech Communities	
Seventh	6-9/9/2015	Speech Acts and Speech events	
Eighth	13-17/9/2015	Dialects, Idiolects, Sociolects	Final Exam

Tests & Evaluation:

First Exam (25%)
Second Exam (25%)
Participation & Assignments (10%)
Final Exam (40%)