

English language

Convener: Dr Jean Mulder

The English language program enables students to specialise in the English language by studying it from a number of perspectives - communicative, grammatical, semantic, historical, developmental and pedagogical. To speak and write the world's most widely-used language effectively, we need to understand its history, its supple and intricate grammar, and the status of its many social and geographical varieties.

English language is a Faculty of Arts interdepartmental program which is housed in the Department of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics. It draws from subjects in the departments of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics, English, and the Centre for Communication Skills and English as a Second Language.

The English language program may be undertaken as a major independently of other areas of study. It is also a useful complement to studies in English, linguistics and applied linguistics, a language, Australian studies, American studies, or women's studies.

Prerequisites

The program commences at first year and there are no prerequisites for entry at this level.

Prerequisites may exist for some of the program's second/third year subjects. Students are advised to consult the relevant area of study entries in this Handbook to make sure that they meet the prerequisites for their chosen subjects. Existing prerequisites may be waived for students undertaking an interdepartmental program. If you do not meet the existing prerequisites, please consult with the relevant subject coordinator for permission to enrol.

English language assistance

Although the program assumes a good mastery of English, overseas students and local students of non-English speaking background who need to consolidate their proficiency in either spoken or written English may wish to take some units offered by the Centre for Communication Skills and ESL. The appropriate subjects offered at first year are:

First year ESL subjects:	Sem.
145-004 Advanced ESL 1 (<i>p.118</i>)	1 rep 2, Summer
145-005 Advanced ESL 2 (<i>p.118</i>)	1 rep 2
145-006 Advanced ESL 3 (<i>p.118</i>)	2
145-007 Spoken Interaction (<i>p.118</i>)	1 rep 2
145-008 Advanced ESL 1: Economics and Commerce (<i>p.118</i>)	1 rep 2

Students should note that no more than two of these subjects may be credited towards a major in English language. However, only one may be counted toward the first year component of the major which must include the completion of the compulsory subject 175-005 English: Its Structure and History (*p.268*). The second of these subjects may be counted as 12.5 points toward the second year component of the major.

Requirements for a major

A major in English language usually consists of nine 12.5 point subjects, (totalling 112.5 points). It comprises:

- two first year subjects in English language which must include 175-005 English: Its Structure and History (*p.268*) and;
- seven second/third year subjects in English language (totalling 87.5 points). These must include:
 - 175-021 Grammar of English (*p.270*) and;
 - either
 - 175-010 Second Language Learning and Teaching (*p.269*) or
 - 175-011 Discourse & Pragmatics (*p.269*)
 - or five subjects from the list of optional subjects below.

English language subjects

First year

Students must take **two** of the following first year subjects towards their major in English language:

First year subjects	Sem.
Compulsory subject	
175-005 English: Its Structure and History (<i>p.268</i>)	1
Optional subjects	
175-004 Introduction to Language (<i>p.268</i>)	1 rep 2

First year subjects

175-006 Cross-cultural Communication (<i>p.268</i>)	Sem. 2 rep Summer
106-006 Contemporary Writing (<i>p.150</i>)	N/A

Second/third year

Students must take the following compulsory subjects and **five** optional subjects towards their English language major:

Compulsory subjects: Sem.

Linguistics and applied linguistics	
175-021 Grammar of English (<i>p.270</i>)	2
One of the following:	
175-010 Second Language Learning and Teaching (<i>p.269</i>)	1
175-011 Discourse & Pragmatics (<i>p.269</i>)	1

Optional subjects Sem.

Linguistics and applied linguistics	
175-007 Phonology (<i>p.268</i>)	2
175-009 First Language Acquisition (<i>p.272</i>)	N/A
175-010 Second Language Learning and Teaching (<i>p.269</i>)	1
175-011 Discourse & Pragmatics (<i>p.269</i>)	1
175-012 First & Second Language Literacies (<i>p.269</i>)	2
175-014 Phonetics (<i>p.269</i>)	1
175-015 Syntax (<i>p.269</i>)	1
175-016 Semantics (<i>p.269</i>)	2
175-019 Language & Society (<i>p.272</i>)	N/A
175-020 Language & Culture (<i>p.270</i>)	1
175-022 Language & Gender (<i>p.272</i>)	N/A
175-023 Computational Linguistics (<i>p.272</i>)	N/A

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106-013 Beowulf (<i>p.151</i>)	N/A
106-024 Introduction to Old English A (<i>p.144</i>)	1
106-025 Creative Writing 2: Across the Genres (<i>p.125</i>)	1 rep 2
106-026 Writing Fiction (<i>p.125</i>)	2
106-027 Writing Scripts (<i>p.126</i>)	1
106-028 Writing Poetry (<i>p.126</i>)	1

Note that one writing subject only may be taken towards a major in English language. Writing subjects have special entry conditions. Students must consult with the Department of English regarding these subjects.

Combined honours entry

Currently there is no pure honours program in English language. This means that students must combine Fourth Year Honours in English Language with another area of study.

The prerequisites for entry to combined honours in English language are:

- completion of all the requirements for the BA and;
- completion of a major in English language and;
- an average grade of H2A or higher over the second/third year subjects within the major and;
- admission to honours in another area of study within the Faculty of Arts.

Entry to Honours must be approved by the convener of English language and the Faculty of Arts honours course adviser.

Honours requirements

Students undertaking combined honours in English language must complete:

- 175-518 English Language Thesis (*p.156*) (37.5 points) and;
- two honours subjects in English language from the list below (totalling 25 points) and;
- three honours subjects in the combined area of study (totalling 37.5 points).

or

- honours thesis in the combined area of study (37.5 points) and;
- two honours subjects in the combined area of study (totalling 25 points) and;
- three honours subjects in English language from the list below (totalling 37.5 points).

Honours subjects

Honours subjects	Points
Linguistics and applied linguistics	
175-002 Topics in English Linguistics (<i>p.156</i>)	12.5
175-003 Topics in English Applied Linguistics (<i>p.156</i>)	12.5
175-032 Advanced Syntax (<i>p.272</i>)	12.5
175-037 Advanced Semantics (<i>p.273</i>)	12.5
175-035 Advanced Phonetics (<i>p.271</i>)	12.5

Honours subjects	Points
English	
106-073 The Exeter Anthology (<i>p.152</i>)	12.5
106-075 Medieval Representations (<i>p.149</i>)	12.5
106-081 Writing (<i>p.150</i>)	12.5

Further study

A Bachelor of Arts which includes English language can lead to graduate studies in English, linguistics or applied linguistics.

For more information

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Subject descriptions

Fourth year subjects

175-518 English Language Thesis

Credit points: 37.5 **HECS-band:** 1

Coordinator: Dr Jean Mulder

Prerequisites: Admission to Fourth Year Honours in English Language.

Contact: Fortnightly meetings with the supervisor (*Year long*).

Description: An original supervised research project on a topic to be approved by the program convener.

Assessment: A research essay of 12 000 words. Students will also be required to prepare and present a 'poster' of their research.

175-002 Topics in English Linguistics

Note: Formerly available as 175-413. Students who have completed 175-413 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5 **HECS-band:** 1

Coordinator: Dr Jean Mulder

Prerequisites: Admission to Fourth Year Honours in English Language.

Contact: A 2-hour seminar per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: This subject is a course of advanced lectures or seminars, whose topic may vary from year to year, given by members of the department or visiting scholars, leading to an advanced understanding of current debates in a particular area of the linguistics of English. Students should develop research and argumentation skills to a level where they can present original analyses orally and verbally in a particular area.

Assessment: Written work totalling 5000 words.

175-003 Topics in English Applied Linguistics

Note: Formerly available as 175-414. Students who have completed 175-414 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Credit points: 12.5 **HECS-band:** 1

Coordinator: Dr Jean Mulder

Prerequisites: Admission to Fourth Year Honours in English Language.

Contact: Two hours of seminars per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: This subject is a course of advanced lectures dealing with a specific area of interest in the applied linguistics of English, whose topic may vary from year to year, given by members of the department or visiting scholars. Typical topics include issues in second language learning and teaching, first or second language acquisition, English language literacy and the analysis of spoken and written discourse. On completion of this subject, students should have gained an advanced level of understanding of a specific area of interest in applied linguistics.

Assessment: Written work totalling 5000 words.