

English Language Studies

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 interdisciplinary program which is housed in the School of Languages and Linguistics. It draws from subjects in the linguistics and applied linguistics and the English literary studies program.

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.

Time commitment to study

As well as scheduled contact hours for lectures, tutorial and seminars a considerable additional time commitment is needed to complete the academic requirements of each subject.

A subject-specific time commitment to study will be provided by your lecturer or tutor at the beginning of semester to help you schedule your workload and successfully manage your time during the semester. In addition, general estimates of the total time commitment required to study a 12.5-point single semester subject in the Faculty of Arts can be found on page 1.

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 interdisciplinary program. If you do not meet the existing prerequisites, please consult with the relevant subject coordinator for permission to enrol.

Diploma in Arts (English Language)

The Diploma in Arts (English Language) is only available to students who are currently enrolled in a degree course at the University of Melbourne. It consists of a three-year sequence of study, and adds one year to the duration of your degree.

Students must complete the first-year subject 175-106 The Linguistics of English (p.2), worth 12.5 points, and 87.5 points of second/third-year subjects, including one compulsory subject, one of two core subjects and five optional subjects. Alternatively, students who have previously completed the compulsory first-year subject may complete 100 points of second/third year subjects, including one compulsory subject, two core subjects and five optional subjects.

Diploma in Arts (English Language) subjects	Points
First-year compulsory subject	
175-106 The Linguistics of English (p.2)	12.5
Second/third-year compulsory subject	
175-021 Grammar of English (p.4)	12.5
Second/third year core subjects	
All students must complete one of the following subjects:	
175-010 Second Language Learning and Teaching (p.3)	12.5
175-011 Discourse & Pragmatics (p.3)	12.5
Optional subjects	
175-007 Phonology (p.3)	12.5
175-009 First Language Acquisition (p.3)	12.5
175-012 First & Second Language Literacies (p.3)	12.5
175-014 Phonetics (p.3)	12.5
175-015 Syntax (p.3)	12.5
175-016 Semantics (p.4)	12.5
175-017 Historical Linguistics (p.4)	12.5
175-019 Language & Society (p.4)	12.5
175-020 Language & Culture (p.4)	12.5
175-200 Language and Media (p.4)	12.5
175-202 Computer Mediated Communication (p.4)	12.5
175-212 Language and Identity (p.5)	12.5
175-213 Morphology (p.5)	12.5
175-409 Discourse Analysis and Representation (p.5)	12.5

Diploma in Arts (English Language) subjects	Points
175-413 Advanced Seminars in English Language (p.2)	12.5
175-415 Advanced Syntax (p.5)	12.5
175-423 Advanced Phonetics (p.6)	12.5
175-435 Advanced Studies in Meaning (p.6)	12.5
175-443 Bilingualism (p.6)	12.5
Communication Skills	
175-126 Academic English: Engineering (p.1)	12.5
175-134 Project Based Communication (p.1)	12.5
175-210 Business and Management Writing (p.1)	12.5
175-211 Technical Writing (p.1)	12.5
English Literary Studies	
106-013 Beowulf (p.4)	12.5
106-024 Introduction to Old English A (p.4)	12.5
106-029 Introduction to Old English B (p.5)	12.5

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 ESL subjects. The appropriate subjects offered at first year are:

First-year ESL subjects:	Sem.
175-107 Science Communication (ESL) (p.1)	1
175-120 Academic English 1 (p.2)	1 rep 2
175-121 Academic English 2 (p.2)	1 rep 2
175-125 Academic English: Economics and Commerce (p.1)	1
175-126 Academic English: Engineering (p.1)	N/A
175-127 Academic English: Information Technology (p.1)	N/A

Students should note that no more than **two** of these subjects may be credited towards a major in English language.

Requirements for a major

A major in English language usually consists of eight 12.5-point subjects, (100 points). It comprises:

- one first-year subject in English language (12.5 points). Students planning to undertake a major in English language may enrol in more than one first-year subject if they wish; and
- seven second/third-year subjects in English language (87.5 points). These must include:
 - 175-021 Grammar of English (p.4); and
 - either
 - 175-010 Second Language Learning and Teaching (p.3) or
 - 175-011 Discourse & Pragmatics (p.3)
 - and five subjects from the list of optional subjects below.

English language subjects

First year

Students must take **one** first-year subject towards their major in English language:

First-year subject	Sem.
Compulsory subject	
175-106 The Linguistics of English (p.2)	2

Second/third year

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

Compulsory subjects:	Sem.
175-021 Grammar of English (p.4)	1
Core subjects	Points
Students must complete one of the following:	
175-010 Second Language Learning and Teaching (p.3)	12.5
175-011 Discourse & Pragmatics (p.3)	12.5
Optional subjects	Sem.
Linguistics and applied linguistics second/third-year level	
175-007 Phonology (p.3)	2
175-009 First Language Acquisition (p.3)	N/A
175-010 Second Language Learning and Teaching (p.3)	2
175-011 Discourse & Pragmatics (p.3)	1
175-012 First & Second Language Literacies (p.3)	1
175-014 Phonetics (p.3)	1
175-015 Syntax (p.3)	1

Optional subjects

175-016	Semantics (p.4)	Sem.	2
175-017	Historical Linguistics (p.4)	N/A	
175-019	Language & Society (p.4)		2
175-020	Language & Culture (p.4)	N/A	
175-212	Language and Identity (p.5)		1
175-213	Morphology (p.5)	N/A	

Linguistics and applied linguistics third/fourth-year level

175-409	Discourse Analysis and Representation (p.5)		2
175-413	Advanced Seminars in English Language (p.2)	1 rep 2	
175-415	Advanced Syntax (p.5)		2
175-423	Advanced Phonetics (p.6)		1
175-435	Advanced Studies in Meaning (p.6)	N/A	
175-443	Bilingualism (p.6)	N/A	

Communication Skills

175-126	Academic English: Engineering (p.1)	N/A	
175-134	Project Based Communication (p.1)	1 rep 2	
175-210	Business and Management Writing (p.1)		1
175-211	Technical Writing (p.1)		2

English

106-013	Beowulf (p.4)	N/A	
106-024	Introduction to Old English A (p.4)		1
106-029	Introduction to Old English B (p.5)		2

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 honours in another program.

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 program within the Faculty of Arts.

For information on how to apply see *Applying for Honours (p.13)*.

Honours requirements

Students undertaking combined honours in English language must complete:

- 175-517 English Language Thesis (p.2) (37.5 points); and
 - two honours subjects in English language from the list below (25 points); and
 - three honours subjects in the combining discipline (37.5 points).
- or
- honours thesis in the combining discipline (37.5 points); and
 - two honours subjects in the combining discipline (25 points); and
 - three honours subjects in English language from the list below (37.5 points).

Honours subjects

		Sem.	
Linguistics and applied linguistics			
175-408	Issues in Linguistic Research (p.6)		1
175-409	Discourse Analysis and Representation (p.5)		2
175-413	Advanced Seminars in English Language (p.2)	1 rep 2	
175-414	Directed Reading in English Language (p.2)	1 rep 2	
175-415	Advanced Syntax (p.5)		2
175-423	Advanced Phonetics (p.6)		1
175-435	Advanced Studies in Meaning (p.6)	N/A	
175-443	Bilingualism (p.6)	N/A	
175-514	Australian Linguistics Institute (p.7)	N/A	
175-536	World Englishes (p.7)	N/A	
English			
106-405	Anthologies of Anglo-Saxon Poetry (p.13)		2
106-414	Medieval Representations (p.14)		2
106-467	Latin Paleography and Codicology (p.12)		1

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****175-517 English Language Thesis**

Availability: 4th year

Credit points: 18.75

Coordinator: Dr Jean Mulder

Prerequisites: Admission to fourth year honours in English language.

Contact: Regular supervision over two consecutive semesters of enrolment (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: An original supervised research project on a topic approved by the program convenor.

Assessment: A thesis of 12 000 words 100% (due at the end of the second semester of enrolment). Students who commence the thesis in semester one will be required to prepare and present a 'poster' of their research in early October. Students who commence the thesis in semester two will be required to prepare and present a 'poster' of their research in April.

175-413 Advanced Seminars in English Language

Note: Formerly available as 175-002. Students who have completed 175-002 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

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 staff from the linguistics program, 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: A written project of 5000 words 100% (due at the end of the semester).

175-414 Directed Reading in English Language

Availability: 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Jean Mulder

Prerequisites: Admission to fourth year honours in English language.

Contact: Regular meetings with the supervisor (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: This is a special study conducted through extensive reading, decided by the student in conjunction with the supervisor. The subject will enhance the student's powers of independent inquiry, should encourage initiative in self-directed research, and should strengthen the student's capacities in theoretical analysis and argument.

Assessment: A written project of 5000 words 100% (due at the end of the semester).