

English Linguistics: Introduction (A005753)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1)

English

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Simon, Ellen

LW06

lecturer-in-charge

De Clerck, Bernard

LW22

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Language Technology)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Swedish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)	5	A
Exchange Programme Applied Language Studies	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English)	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Elective Set Linguistics	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Position of the course

This introductory course provides students with a socio-historical and sub-disciplinary understanding of the how and why of the study of English as a contemporary world phenomenon and as an object of linguistic research. The various sub-disciplines and components of the language system are addressed, with the syntactic component being explored in depth. Situation of the course with respect to language proficiency: in the first year of the undergraduate English program, students are expected to consolidate an ECFR language proficiency level B2.

Contents

Why study English from a linguistic perspective? What does the linguistic study of English involve? What is the role of English in the world and English as a world language? What are the building blocks of English syntax in light of language evolution and variation? This course provides an overview of the major historical, social, cultural and geographical developments and the linguistic themes that brought them about and highlights syntactic analysis.

Initial competences

To master English at the initial level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, i.e. B2.1 (First-stage "Vantage"/"Upper intermediate"/"Independent" proficiency).

Final competences

- 1 Having insights into the relevant issues of linguistic research, applied to English.
- 2 Being able to answer exam questions in correct English.
- 3 Having an overview of the most important historical, social, cultural and geographical developments with respect to English.
- 4 Having insights into the linguistic issues with regard to historical, social, cultural and geographical developments.
- 5 Having knowledge of English as a linguistic phenomenon in a global context and as the object of linguistic research.
- 6 Have systematic knowledge of the terminology and key insights of contemporary syntax of English.
- 7 Be able to name sentences, phrases and words from a formal and functional perspective within this terminological and theoretical apparatus.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

lecture

Recordings of lectures will be made available to students. The recordings do not replace attendance in lectures, but can offer additional, optional support to students.

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: (2018). The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language. Cambridge University Press.
Indicative price: € 41
Optional: no
Author : David Crystal
ISBN : 978-1-10843-773-8

Type: Slides

Name: Slides & Handouts
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no

References

Course content-related study coaching

Students can make appointments with lecturers for meetings during office hours.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Calculation of the examination mark

100% periodic (written exam)

Facilities for Working Students

- Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
- The examination cannot be rescheduled
- Feedback can be given online or during an appointment during office hours