

175-408 Issues in Linguistic Research

Credit Points:	25.000
Level:	Undergraduate
Dates & Locations:	2008, This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 1, - Taught on campus. .
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: A 3-hour seminar per week Total Time Commitment: .
Prerequisites:	Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth-year honours in linguistics and applied linguistics.
Corequisites:	.
Recommended Background Knowledge:	.
Non Allowed Subjects:	.
Core Participation Requirements:	.
Coordinator:	Prof Nick Evans
Subject Overview:	This subject takes a broad and historically based view of some of the great topics that have preoccupied thinkers in linguistics, and how they interrelate, by juxtaposing the history of ideas on each of a dozen topics with relevant contemporary debates. Topics to be covered include defining properties of language; sign and system; arbitrariness versus constraints on the system; the role of typology; the role of formal modelling of language systems; linguistic relativity; synchrony versus diachrony; linguistics as a science; the linguistic system and the community of users; the boundaries of the language system; functionalism, adaptation and evolution of language systems; categories, classical and otherwise; and language, mind and brain.
Assessment:	Two oral presentations, each followed by a written report of 1500 words (25% each; due during the semester), and an essay of 4000 words 50% (due at the end of the semester).
Prescribed Texts:	A subject reader will be available
Recommended Texts:	.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	# develop their skills in research; # develop their skills in critical thinking and analysis.
Notes:	.
Related Course(s):	Postgraduate Certificate in Arts (English Language) Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (English Language Studies) Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (Linguistics & Applied Linguistics)