Module code: MOD009583	**Version:** 1 **Date Amended:** 30/Oct/2023

1. Module Title

Language, Communication and Society

2a. Module Leader

Bettina Beinhoff

2b. School

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty

Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level

4

3b. Module Type

Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits

30

4b. Study Hours

300

5. Restrictions

Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

The way we communicate may depend on a wide variety of factors including the place we grew up in, our age, our gender, and so on and so forth. At the same time, the way others communicate with us may depend on their perception and understanding of who we are. This module introduces you to the field of sociolinguistics. We will explore the intersection between language choices in actual communication and the various factors that could influence them. The module is particularly focused on the social side of communication. In doing so, we will look at different forms of communication including written (e.g. letters), spoken (interviews) and visual communication (e.g. linguistic landscape) in today's contemporary societies.

Key employability skills developed on this module include (i) improving knowledge of how acts of communication unfold, (ii) enhancing communication skills, and (iii) the application of basic IT Skills.

6b. Outline Content

The module may discuss the following topics and concepts:

- Language and its social context
- Language and social variables (e.g. age, gender, social class)
- Regional variation in language use
- Speech communities
- Language and disadvantage
- Language and social justice
- Language resources
- Code-switching
- Language rights
- Language and globalisation
- Code-switching in conversation
- Language style
- Language and identity

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)

No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate basic awareness and understanding of key dimensions of language variation.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate basic awareness and understanding of language choices in a changing world.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate basic awareness and understanding of the ways in which linguistic diversity may have an impact on issues such as equality and justice in society.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Apply their understanding of key concepts in the analysis of real-life samples of language use.
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critique how language choices in rapidly changing societies have implications for people from various demographic and socio-economic backgrounds.
6	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Produce a word-processed, well-organised and appropriately formatted essay in academic English.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers

Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2025/6	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence

Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	12	1-6	Weekly 1-hour lecture
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-6	Weekly 2-hour seminar
Student managed learning	264	1-6	Reading, seminar preparation and research, planning and writing of assignments
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-6	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Portfolio of coursework comprising various tasks in which key concepts are used to analyse examples of language use in society, equivalent to 5000 words

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:
(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
(b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]