

CEOE1: Open Elective in Communicative English

Understanding Linguistics

This paper is introductory in nature and open to students of all backgrounds who are interested in learning the basics of Linguistics. Students taking the course must have basic knowledge (be able to read-write-speak) of English, and another Indian language. A follow-up course in Syntax will be offered next semester to help the student complete the learning begun in this course. Classroom methodology will range across lectures and micro-research assignments that will be discussed after completion. Students taking the course will need to submit a portfolio of material collected with analysis for summative assessment.

Areas covered

Introduction (04 hours)

The nature and scope of Linguistics—Human Communication—Idea of Language Origin—Linguistics today

Sounds (15 hours)

The organs of speech; Introducing phonetics and phonology; The International Phonetic Alphabet; Consonants; Vowels; Diphthongs; basic phonological processes.

Morphology (07 hours)

Morphemes and Lexemes; Basic morphological processes; Word-formation

Writing Systems (04 hours)

Speech and writing; Alphabet, abugida and abjad; Syllabaries; Featural systems

Lexicography (03 hrs)

Dictionaries and dictionary-making;

Semantics (06 hours)

Basic concepts in semantics

Pragmatics (06 hours)

Context in pragmatics; speech acts; implicature

Bibliography

1. Lyons, John. Language and Linguistics: An Introduction, Cambridge, 1981.
2. Crystal, David. How Language Works, Avery, 2007.
3. Bauer, Laurie; The Linguistics Student's Handbook, OUP, 2007.