

English Linguistics I

Prof. Attilia Lavagno

Course aims

The main aim of the course is to introduce students to English linguistics, and help them develop the basic theoretical and practical competences needed to understand present-day English and to describe some of its structural features.

Course contents

The course is divided into two parts:

Part 1

- Overview of the history of the English language.
- The global spread of English.
- Varieties of English.
- English as a Lingua Franca (ELF).

Part 2

- Introduction to the basics of English linguistics.
- The sounds: phonetics.
- The sound system: phonology.
- The structure of words: morphology.
- The structure of sentences: syntax.

Exam

Assessment will be in the form of an oral exam. It will consist of both questions on the theoretical course contents and practical exercises of analysis of the language structures (phonological transcription, morphological and word-formation analysis, syntactic analysis of clauses and sentences, etc.).

Bibliography

- Class notes, class slides (which will be uploaded onto Google Drive) and material provided during the course.

- McIntyre, D. (2020) History of English: A Resource Book for Students. New York: Routledge.

- Kuiper, K. and Allan, W.S. (2016) An Introduction to English Language. Sound, Word and Sentence (4th edition). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

- Plag, I. Arndt-Lappe, S. Braun, M. Schramm, M. (2015) Introduction to English Linguistics. Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter Mouton.

- Facchinetti, R. (2020) Introduction to English Phonetics and Morphology. Verona: QuiEdit

Further bibliographical references will be provided during the course.