King Faisal University
College of Arts
Department of English Language
Academic Plan: Course Description

1- Course identification

Department	Department of English Language	Level	7
Course title	Sociolinguistics (elective)	Code	ADEL 456
Course	Theoretical √ Practical		
Domain	Language/ Linguistics	Prerequisite(s)	
Credit hours	2 Contact hours 2	ADEL 250: Introduction to Linguistics	

2- Course content

"Sociolinguistics" introduces the main areas of studying language in its social context. The course elaborates on sociolinguistics as different from the sociology of language. Language determines and hence controls social factors such as social class, socio-cultural variables, gender, race, and other situational parameters. The course focuses on British and American Sociolinguistics, including dialects and other social factors in addition to variation according to use, i.e. registers, sublanguages, text-types and genres in English.

3- Course rationale

The course has been suggested because: 1) It provides students with an in-depth understanding of the social function of language. 2) It provides insights into the socio-cultural factors sensitive to language use. 3- It is needed to understand English society and culture.

4- Course objectives

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1- Demonstrate knowledge of social and cultural function of English.

2- Show knowledge of linguistic features typical of a given major regional English dialect.

3- Show knowledge of the linguistic features typical of certain varieties of English (conversation, speech verses writing, scientific English, and a selection of typical text-types).

4- Apply sociolinguistic analysis in relation to using English in the local situation and the Middle East.

5- Teaching methods

The course makes use of the following teaching/learning methods:

1- Lectures given by the teacher.

2- Teacher-prepared notes and handouts.

3- Class demonstration of applications in a case study.

4- Student's practical application of sociolinguistic analysis to local situation.

5- Class Quizzes and assignments.

6- Course evaluation

Continuous assessment is the main method of evaluation. The following instruments are utilized:

1- Attendance   10%

2- Class Quizzes and assignment   10%

3- Practical applications   10%

4- Midterm Exam   20%

5- Final Exam   50%

7- References and teaching learning resources

1- Main Textbook:

1- Wardhaugh, Ronald (2005). *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. New York, Wiley, John & Sons, Incorporated.

2- Reference(s):

1- Cheshire, Jenny Ed. (1991). *English around the World: Sociolinguistic Perspectives*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

3- Websites:
1- WWW.barnesandnoble.com
2- KFU Webcity material
3- Saudi Universities online resources (Internet site)