ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY
THEODORE MARIA SCHOOL OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
(DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ENGLISH)
COURSE OUTLINE 2/2026

Course: GL2101 Introduction to Language
Credit: 3
Status: Core Course
Prerequisite: GL 1101 Elements of Spoken Language
Lecturers: A. Jitravadee Singhaniyom (jitravadee.s@gmail.com) sections 401-402
Dr. Supakorn Panichkul (supakornpnc@au.edu) sections 403-404
Sections: 401 – 404

Course Description: Characteristics, functions, concepts and principles of the human language, four major structural components of language and the relationship to one another, language change, language acquisition and the relationship of language and society

Course Objectives: This course aims to enable students:
1. to study language in a systematic way
2. to understand the characteristics of human language
3. to understand the functions, concepts and basic principles of human language
4. to understand language variation, language learning and language change

Teaching–Learning Activities:
1. Lectures
2. Assignments
3. Group Discussions
4. Homework
5. Report/ Group Oral Presentation

Course Requirements:
1. 80% Attendance Mandatory (Maximum Absence = 6 times)
2. Discussion and Class Participation
3. Punctuality
4. Assignments
5. Oral Presentation
6. Mid-term Exam
7. Final Exam

Mark Allocation:

1. Individual assignments	250	Marks (25%)
2. Group assignments	100	Marks (10%)
2. Term Project Presentation	100	Marks (10%)
3. Class Attendance and Participation	50	Marks (5%)
4. Mid-term Exam	200	Marks (20%)
5. Final Exam	300	Marks (30%)
Total	1,000	Marks (100%)

STUDY PLAN AND SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Content
1	Introduction Language characteristics	-Definition of Linguistics -Tasks of linguists -Traditional grammar and modern linguistics -Branches of linguistics -Some well-known linguists
2	Human Language	-What is language? -Eight design features of human language -Origin and functions of language
3	Basic concepts in Phonetics	-Production of speech sounds

		-Voicing -Place of articulation -Manner of articulation
4	Basic concepts in Phonology	-The study of sound pattern -Minimal Pairs -Phonemes -Allophones -Sound combinations -Distinctive features
5	Basic concepts in Morphology	-The study of word structures -Words -Morphemes -Classification of morphemes -Word formation processes
6	Basic grammatical structures	-Basic grammatical structures -Constituent analysis -Tree diagram -Tree diagram with phrase marker and rewrite rules -Embedding and conjoining
7	Basic concepts in Semantics	-The study of meaning -Semantic relationships between words: synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, homonymy -The study of meaning -Semantic relationships involving sentences: ambiguity, contradiction, and entailment -Grammaticality and acceptability
8	Basic concepts in Pragmatics	-What is pragmatics? -What does pragmatics include? -Speech acts -Direct and indirect speech acts -Presupposition -Politeness
Midterm Exam: 6 January 2027 (12.00-14.00 hrs.)		
9	Language variation/ diversity	-The study of language and society -The notion of language -Accent, dialect, and language -Stylistic variation: Language styles -Communicative Competence
10	Language variation/ diversity	-Multilingual Communities -Lingua Franca -Pidgin and Creole languages -World Englishes -ASEAN English Varieties
11	Language the mind and the brain	-The study of language and the mind -Language acquisition of humans -The Innateness Hypothesis -Theories of language acquisition -The Imitation Theory -The Reinforcement Theory -The Active Construction of a Grammar Theory
12	1. Language the mind and the brain 2. Language change	-The functions of the brain -Types of Aphasia - The study of language change -Diachronic study and Synchronic study of language -Causes of language change -How languages change
13	Language change	-The history of the English language -Adding new words to a language -Internet linguistics
14	Term project presentation	

15	Review for final exam	
Final exam: 5 March 2027 (13.00-16.00 hrs.)		

February 19, 2027 is the last day to withdraw with "W."

REFERENCES:

1. Aitchison, J (2004). Linguistics. London, England: Hodder Headline Plc.
2. Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., & Hyams, N. (2003). An Introduction to Language. Boston, MA: Thomson Heinle.
3. Natiladdanon, K. & Thanavisuth, C. (2014). Attitudes, awareness, and comprehensibility of ASEAN English accents: A qualitative study of University students in Thailand. Catalyst, 9, 16-30.
4. Thanavisuth, C. & Natiladdanon, K. (2014). The identification, comprehension, and perception of three East English varieties: Implications for English teaching in Thailand in Thailand. Proceedings of the 2014 International Conference "Language and Culture Education: Current Perspectives and Future Directions" Bangkok, Thailand: Suan Dusit Rajaphat University.
5. Vedrana, M. & Wilson, C. (Eds). (2011). Language Files. Department of Linguistics, The Ohio State University. Columbus: The Ohio State University Press.
6. Yule, G. (2010). The Study of Language. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

STANDARD GRADING SYSTEM

A 85-100%	A- 82-84%	B+ 79-81%	B 75-78%	B- 72-74%
C+ 69-71%	C 65-68%	C- 62-64%	D 50-61%	F 0-49%

Au VISION 2000

Assumption University of Thailand envisions itself as:

- an international community of scholars,
- enlivened by Christian inspiration,
- engaged in the pursuit of Truth and Knowledge,
- serving human society, especially through the creative use of interdisciplinary approaches and cyber technology.

ENVISIONING Au GRADUATES

Assumption University of Thailand envisions its graduates as:

- healthy and open-minded persons, characterized by personal integrity, an independent mind, and positive thinking,
- professionally competent, willing to exercise responsible leadership for economic progress in a just society,
- able to communicate effectively with people from other nations and to participate in globalization.

AU MISSION

Assumption University, an International Catholic University, is committed to be the light that leads learners and its stakeholders from all parts of the world towards wisdom, Truth, and Christian values and to discover "Treasure Within" themselves. Via effective teaching and research pedagogies of international standards as well as community engagement, the University aims to form individuals to be intellectually competent, morally sound, and spiritually enriching, accountable, righteous, and service-minded citizens; excelling in serving communities comprising of diverse cultures.

Au UNIQUENESS

"An International Catholic University"

Au IDENTITY

- Ethics
- English Proficiency
- Entrepreneurial Spirit

THEODORE MARIA SCHOOL OF ARTS

(www.arts.au.edu)

VISION AND MISSION

Vision

An international community of business communicators in Thailand

Mission

Theodore Maria School of Arts will ensure that: the School will…

1. Enhance business language skills

2. Promote cultural awareness

3. Foster academic networking

4. Encourage ethical standards and practices

TAGLINE

เติมเต็มศิลป์ภาษา พัฒนาศาสตร์ธุรกิจ

Language Education, Business Inspiration

ARTS ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE: More than faculty, we are family

• Open communication

• Mentoring system

• Dedication

• Caring

• Teamwork

• Commitment

• Resource sharing

Core Values

A = Adaptability

R = Responsibility

T = Togetherness

S = Sustainability

Core Competencies

Employability

Multiculturalism

Internationalization

Quality Assurance Process

Students should understand and apply the Quality Assurance Process in their study. The Plan-Do-Check-Act Cycle (PDCA) provides an easy but effective approach for problem solving and managing change, ensuring that ideas are appropriately tested before the full implementation. It can be used in all sorts of situations and can be clarified as follows:

Plan: Define the current problem, process, and issue and establish objectives and processes required to deliver the desired results.

Do: Implement the plans and new processes developed.

Check: Monitor and evaluate the implemented process by testing the results against the predetermined objectives.

Act: Apply actions necessary for improvement if the results require changes.

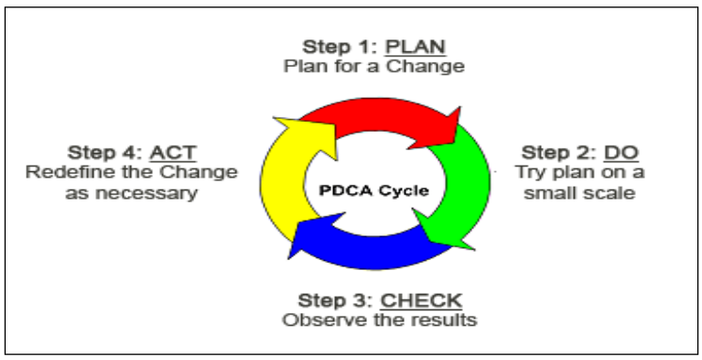


Figure 1: PDCA Cycle (http://www.swopehealth.org)

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence, a serious breach of ethical conduct and is unacceptable student behavior. Students who plagiarize copying words or ideas without acknowledging the original writer of the words or ideas, will face disciplinary action. This will range from receiving an “F” in the subject to university suspension.