

Irbid National University
Faculty of Arts
Department of English Language and Literature
BA in English Language and Literature
Course Description
2019/2018

1. University Requirements

Compulsory:

(0099) Remedial English

This course is offered to students who score poorly (i.e. below 50%) on the placement test . It aims at fostering the students' fluency before starting their ordinary university English basic courses. It is concerned with reviewing and increasing students' English vocabulary by improving their language skills. It also helps students develop the skills of comprehension, listening, and reading as well as skills of grammar and functions that are presented and practiced in an imaginative and personalized way. The focus is on vocabulary, tenses of the verbs and simple constructions in English.

(205125) English Skills (1)

This course is intended to enrich the students' skills of reading comprehension, speaking, listening and writing. The course aims at helping students to learn the basic sentence patterns of English and to improve their vocabulary as well. The learning of how to form words through the process of affixation, and the proper use of prepositions are two more objectives of this course.

2. Faculty Requirements

A. Compulsory:

(202126) English Skills (2) **(Prereq: 205125)**

This course is designed to enhance students' skills in reading comprehending, speaking and writing. It aims at helping students to learn fundamental syntactic patterns of English as well as to improve their vocabulary via exercises such as verb-noun derivation by using affixes, synonyms, and antonyms. The course also includes exercises dealing with spelling, pronunciation and writing.

B. Electives:

(202110) French (1)

This course aims at qualifying students to make simple conversation, presenting themselves and expressing their feelings and interests. The method includes texts with helpful and sufficient vocabulary and expressions. Graduate students must be able to construct meaningful sentences, as well as reading simple external texts. Since French depends mainly on Feminine/ Masculine nouns and adjectives, this course is supposed to cover as many nouns and adjectives as possible. Introducing all kinds of regular verbs, numbers, days of the week, years, months and as many nouns as possible is one more aim of this course.

(202114) Study Skills in English

This course aims at providing students with useful study strategies that would help them to become efficient at doing research, using library, computer facilities, dictionaries and writing outlines. It also enriches students' vocabulary, improves their reading and note-taking skills, and trains them how to prepare for and pass their examinations.

3. Department Requirements

A. Compulsory:

(202103) Listening Comprehension

The course is intended to develop students' listening skill and hence to enhance their understanding of academic and non-academic spoken discourses by being orally accessed to a variety of English language texts and recordings of natural and spontaneous speech of English. Consequently, they would be able to use a variety of vocabulary and expressions in their appropriate linguistic situations.

(202108) Conversation / Oral Skills **(Prereq: 202103)**

This situationally-graded course is intended to help students learn and practise the types of informal conversational English in current everyday use. The teacher should motivate his/her students to memorize and use as many as possible the expressions and phrases contained in the dialogues, since they are used by English people time and time again in the given situations. Drills and activities are also provided to help students to get the most important constructions well established in their minds in order to use them freely in the right situations.

(202109) Reading Comprehension

The course is intended to develop students' competence in reading skill and hence to enhance their understanding of academic and non-academic written texts by being accessed to a variety of English language texts. Thus, they can build up vocabulary and improve grammatical as well as textual competence and strategies.

(202115) English Grammar

This course is intended to enable students to be familiar with several fundamental topics in grammar of English such as verb tenses, modal auxiliaries, passivization, gerunds, infinitives and participles. The knowledge of the above would help students to write well-formed sentences which are considered the pivot of good writing. The main aim of this pre-requisite course is to provide students with such grammatical topics in order to be prepared for the subsequent course of 'English Grammar (2)'.

(202131) English Pronunciation (1)

The course is intended to introduce the students to English speech sounds with reference to some sounds in Arabic, the students' native language. It comprises three components: theory, practice of specific points in class activities and individual and group work in the language laboratory. Students will be able to recognize the various English sounds, transcribe them with phonetic symbols, describe how they are produced, and produce them themselves. Intensive practice in these four areas is given in small group classroom sessions and through the use of the language lab. Previous knowledge of phonetics is useful but not essential.

(202202) Paragraph Writing

This course deals with writing the paragraph and its elements, connecting sentences by transitional expressions, and the significant features of an ideal paragraph including unity, coherence, adequate development and variety. Moreover, the course embodies tackling topic sentence, controlling idea, the use of supporting ideas, whether major or minor, to develop the paragraph leading to conclusion. The students will also be trained on using various techniques in shifting from one idea to another so as to write a meaningful paragraph through the correct use of punctuation marks.

(202208) Essay Writing

(Prereq: 202202)

This course aims at introducing narrative, descriptive, argumentative and reflective essays including their definitions, construction and the main elements of them. The course does not neglect literary essays. Finally, it ends up with letter writing- formal and personal.

(202211) Advanced English Grammar **(Prereq: 202115)**

This course is intended to cover different topics of the English grammar which help students establish the rules needed for saying and writing different types of well-formed sentences. To achieve the above objective, the course focuses on the following: a. elements of grammar b. verb and verb phrase c. nouns, pronouns and the basic noun phrase d. adjective and adverb clauses e. prepositions and prepositional phrases f. the simple and complex sentence.

(202219) Communicative English Language **(Prereq: 202126)**

This course aims at helping students communicate effectively in English. They will learn how to use language structures and vocabulary in real life situations. This course intends to build all language skill areas but with one very big important key difference, it has special focus on students' real communicative abilities. Students, then, will not only learn the language, but also will learn how to apply it.

(202223) British and American Drama **(Prereq: 202225)**

This course will tackle some of the major British playwrights as well as some of the American dramatists like Edward Albee, John Millington Synge, Harold Pinter and Samuel Becket. Through discussions, this course will develop critical abilities in drama. The plays selected for this course will an overview about the basic themes, types and elements of drama.

(202225) Survey of English Literature **(Prereq: 202109)**

The course aims at giving students a historical overview of the development of English literature from its beginning to the present day. The approach will be in terms of major authors and movements that have significantly influenced the course in its developments. Selected texts representing these authors and movements will be used.

(202231) English Pronunciation (2) **(Prereq: 202131)**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to English phonology, its nature and its content. It is mainly concerned with the study of phonemes, their patterns, and distribution and the way they are transcribed. It also studies syllable, stress and intonation. A large number of technical terms and concepts are introduced and explained such as: complementary distribution, free variation, neutralization, syllabicity, weak forms, rhythm, assimilation, elision, juncture, etc.

(202315) Syntax **(Prereq: 202115)**

This is a course offered at the advanced level to develop students' abilities in the knowledge of how the language operates. Students are exposed to both theory and application in relevance to syntactic structures. The structure of the English language is examined within the framework of the transformational – generative approach. Students are required to learn how to derive surface structures from deep structures by means of phrase structure rules and transformational rules with an emphasis on their applications. Ample examples of English sentences of various types are used in the course of analysis.

(202326) Literary Criticism **(Prereq: 202225)**

This course maps literary criticism from Plato to the modern age with a focus on modern critical theory . Russian Formalism, New criticism Structuralism, Post Structuralism (Semiotics, Psycho-analysis, Reception Theory, Feminism, etc. Twentieth-Century literary Theory by K.M. Newton (Ed.)) is recommended.

(202311) English Phonology **(Prereq: 202231)**

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with English advanced phonology begins with words in company. It covers the following aspects of connected speech: starting with the syllable as a unit of English pronunciation, aspects of English syllable-pitch, duration, force and stress. Intonation: tone and tonality, Basic English tones, falling tones and rising tones. Compound tones: falling –rising and rising falling tones.

(202354) British Novel **(Prereq: 202225)**

This course deals with the 20th century novelists such as E.M. Forster, D.H. Lawrence, James Joyce, Conrad and others. Two Novels, at least, should be studied within a framework of modern trends in English Literature. Lord of the Flies by W. Golding and A Passage to India by E.M. Forster are recommended.

(202358) Poetry from the Beginning until 1798 **(Prereq: 202225)**

This course covers English poetry from its medieval beginnings until the Romantic period. The first part of the course is Beowulf and some selections from Middle English poetry. The second part is devoted to a study of selected poems and poets of Renaissance, 17th century, the Restoration and the 18th century.

(202359) English Poetry from the Romantic Period to the Present(Prereq 202358)

This course covers English poetry from the Romantic period until the present. Poets and poems representative of the Romantic period, of the Victorian age, and of the twentieth century are studied in their literary and historical contexts.

(202367) Shakespeare & the Renaissance **(Prereq 202225)**

A course in Renaissance Drama with emphasis on Shakespeare, but with due representation given to other playwrights of the period, Jacobean as well as Elizabethan.

(202417) Semantics **(Prereq: 202115)**

This course is concerned with the study of meaning and semantic relations within various linguistic structures. It deals in particular with the nature of meaning: naming, denotation, sense and reference relations, lexical meaning, thematic meaning as well as the grammatical relations among sentences. It also deals with the analysis of propositional content of sentences and utterance meaning: speech acts and their illocutionary force against a background of how people communicate with language. An emphasis will be given to different types of sense relations with some practice on each one.

(202418) Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) 1 **(Prereq: 202115)**

This course aims at providing prospective teachers with a theoretical background to the methodology of English teaching and learning through the study of the major approaches to FLT. The course presents basic assumptions dealing with the nature of language and language learning and teaching. It provides practical information for teaching the linguistic elements of the language, namely, pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar. It also discusses the major principles and techniques used in the classroom such as management, planning, motivation and attitudes of teachers to students and to the teaching process in general.

(202420) Morphology **(Prereq: 202115)**

This course aims at introducing the students to English morphology. It is concerned with the study of word structure - analysis and composition of words. It also deals with the types of words: simple, compound and complex. It also studies the processes of inflection and derivation and covers the processes of word formation such as compounding, clipping, Acronyms, etc.

B. Electives:

(202201) Vocabulary Development (Prereq: 202109)

This course is designed to help students build their vocabulary. It incorporates material selected and compiled from various sources. Learners are motivated to look at how perspectives or words have to be altered the moment the users start to be involved in the course. They will be oriented to look at words as more central to language use. The following insights will be explored: how different vocabulary is employed by different users in different contexts, criteria of selecting vocabulary such as frequency count, usefulness, size, type of the corpus (written or spoken); does the corpus cover a wide range of text types, i.e., topics, registers, situations, etc?

(202216) Reading and Summarizing (Prereq: 202109)

This course presents a wide range of authentic reading materials including newspapers, journals, reviews, and academic texts in order to comprehend contrasting viewpoints and to predict and identify main ideas and to decode inter-sentential clues. The main focus of the course is to build up writing sub-skills emphasizing the organization, coherence, cohesion, summarizing, outlining and paraphrasing at paragraph level.

(202218) Teaching English via Computer

The purpose of this course is to train students the actual teaching of the English language skills via computer. Computer programs for teaching English are discussed and applied in the computer lab. Students will also be taught how to carry out proficiency and achievement tests via computer.

(202310) Introduction to Linguistics (Prereq: 202211)

The course intends to acquaint students with fundamental topics related to language such as its nature, characteristics, functions and components. Throughout the course, students can get a general idea about how different the two approaches, i.e., the traditional and the modern are in tackling basic issues in language study. Besides, the course provides the students with a general view of applied linguistics as well as the non-linguistic fields that it can be applied to.

(202324) Survey of American Literature (Prereq: 202225)

This course acquaints students with American literature from its beginnings up to the present day. It involves in-depth readings and discussions of selected novels,

poems, plays and short stories. This selection includes works by major writers such as Emerson, Whitman, Hawthorn, Hemingway, Miller and Williams to name but a few. The purpose of these readings is to demonstrate the development of American literature throughout the ages and its growing importance at present. This course also sheds light on the literary movements, the literary history, and the general characteristics of American culture.

(202327) English for Specific Purposes (ESP) (Prereq: 202418)

This course aims at familiarizing students with the development characteristics and pedagogical applications of ESP. The nature of ESP as a new trend, the criteria of selecting ESP vocabulary, the structural points which are mostly used in this particular kind of language, and the characteristics of ESP are also presented in this course.

(202328) English Language Learning Theories (Prereq: 202115)

This course aims at introducing students to the globalized theories adopted in learning English as a foreign language, such as Behaviorism, Cognitivism and Constructivism as well as informal and post-modern theories. Emphasis during the course is placed on their applications to enhance the role of the teachers inside classrooms.

(202330) Miscue and Error Analysis (Prereq: 202202)

This course aims at introducing students to Miscue and Error Analysis Approaches and their applications to language learning. Students are trained on how to identify, label and account for errors produced by Jordanian and Arab students learning English as a foreign language.

(202355) Modern American Novel (Prereq: 202225)

This course deals with the 20th century American novelists such as W. Faulkner, Ernest Hemingway, John Steinbeck and others. Two novels, at least such as The Old Man and the Sea by Hemingway and The Great Gatsby by Fitzgerald are recommended.

(202392) Short Story (Prereq: 202225)

This course is intended to introduce students to the major short story writers in English literature , and acquaint them with the literary and critical terminology used across the spectrum of English literature . The course also equips students

with the tools that enable them to interpret , analyze and appreciate a wide range of texts and styles related to Short Story tellers . D.H. Lawrence and W. Somerset Maugham can be prescribed in this course .

(202409) Research Skills **(Prereq: 202208)**

This course teaches students and trains them to write research papers on linguistic, literary, educational and other types of topics by using the available techniques and technology for gathering data. It also tackles the main libraries' classification systems to get use of references, sources and books which are necessary for writing research papers. This aim is supposed to be achieved by applying series of steps starting with identifying the 'problem', and ending with a 'research'.

(202413) Art of Translation **(Prereq: 202211)**

This course is practical in nature. It provides students with the chance to deal with the translation of general texts from English into Arabic and vice-versa. These texts can be chosen from published materials such as books, journals, magazines and newspapers. Differences in translation such as cultural and linguistic differences are discussed in the classroom. Students should also practice translating texts at home and discuss some of their translations in the classroom. Moreover, students will be provided with the basic techniques of translation.

(202416) Sociolinguistics **(Prereq: 202211)**

This course helps students study the language in its social and cultural contexts. It provides them with a general introduction to this type of linguistics , varieties of language such as standard and nonstandard , idiolect and dialect and their social cultural values .It also studies the interrelationship among languages , culture thought , etc .

(202419) Applied Linguistics **(Prereq: 202211)**

This course aims at acquainting the students with the various fields of application in linguistics. It enables the students to examine and study the applications of linguistic theory to language learning, language acquisition, syllabus design, lexicography, speech synthesis and machine translation. It is also designed to train the students on how conduct applications in a certain field of linguistics can be applied.

(202429) New Trends in Teaching English **(Prereq: 202418)**

This course aims at acquainting students with current foreign and second language teaching trends such as Constructivist approach, Content-based instruction, Task-based instruction, Problem-based teaching, multiple intelligences, etc. Students will be provided with a fair amount of orientation in current conceptions in EFL, their strengths and limitations, as well as their implications for the development of activities, classroom materials and tasks in teaching English as a foreign language.

(202492) Special Topic in Literature (Prereq: 202225)

This course is intended to provide students with an in-depth study of a particular genre, period, movement, author, or topic in Literature.

C. Supporting:

(202427) Western Thought and Culture

The aim of this course is to introduce the students to some salient features of western thought and culture. The term western culture refers to a heritage of social norms, ethical values, traditional customs, religious beliefs, political systems, specific artifacts and technologies.

Cornerstones of the course are:

1. deductive reasoning and scientific thinking ;
2. democracy and associated values ;
3. rule of law ;
4. Music, art and architecture.

An important feature of western culture is its focus on science and technology. The course should briefly familiarize students with the west's advocacy of individual rights, a free press, a widening suffrage qualification, the protection of women and children from exploitation.

At the end of the course, students should be able to provide a rational answer to the question: "are western ideals and value necessarily the unquestionable good they are often believed to be?".

(202428) Teaching English as a Foreign language (TEFL) 2 (Prereq: 202109)

This course aims at familiarizing students of English with key aspects of methodology. It exposes them to theories of accuracy and fluency which enables them to select learning activities and methods of teaching at basic and secondary

levels. It also provides them with practical information for teaching the various language skills, namely, listening, speaking, reading and writing. Besides, the course is concerned with lesson planning, practical teaching, delivery observation, analysis as well as evaluation and discussion of micro-teaching.