

FACULTY OF ARTS

M.A. (Linguistics)

Language and Linguistics :

- Speech and writing.
- The key properties of language.
- Functions of language.
- Modern Linguistics.
- Describing Language I : Phonology and morphology
- Syntax and semantics.
- Language, Context and Communication – pragmatics and its scope.
- Applied Linguistics : Translation and Lexicography; Language disorder; forensic linguistics.
- Language and mind.
- Language and artificial intelligence – computational linguistics
- Major language families of the world.
- Language diversity in India – Language families represented in India.
- Languages specified in the VIII Schedule of the Indian Constitution.

General Phonetics

- Branches of phonetics; use of phonetics.
- The Anatomy and Physiology of Speech : The organs of speech.
- Initiation of Speech : Pulmonic, glottalic, velaric.
- Phonation : Voiceless; voiced; whisper; glottal closure.
- Speech Articulation : Consonant and vowel; State of velum; direction of air flow; force of articulation; Prolong ability; manner of articulation; place of articulation.
- Description and Classification of Consonants – Place of Articulation; Manner of Articulation.
- Vowels – position of the tongue and position of the lips.
- Cardinal vowels – primary and secondary; diphthongs.
- Suprasegmental (or Prosodic) aspects of Speech
- Syllable and its structure – on set, peak, coda
- Sounds in Connected Speech : Assimilation and dissimilation; elision.
- Transcription – Phonemic (broad) and phonetics (narrow); diacritics.

Phonology :

- Phonemics and phonology
- Phone, allophone and phoneme
- Segmental or linear phonemes
- Complementary distribution of allophones; free variation.
- Phonemic Analysis : Preliminary procedures.
- Supra – segmental or non – linear phonemes – stress, pitch, juncture
- Phonotactics : The study of the distribution of phonemes.
- Distribution of English consonantal phonemes.

- English vowel phonemes in word initial, medial and final positions.
- English diphthongs – closing and centering.
- The theory of `distinctive features`.
- The concept of `neutralization` and `archiphoneme`

Introductory Morphology :

- Morphology – its definition and scope.
- Morph, allomorph and morpheme
- Morpheme and word
- Conditioning of allomorphs.
- Affixes – prefixes, suffixes and infixes.
- Base, root and stem.
- Inflection and derivation.
- Word formation – compounding
- Morphological Process : Affixation, internal change, reduplication, suppletion and zero modification.
- Morphophonemics – the phonological structure of morphemes.
- Morphemic Analysis – Segmentation and grouping; Nida's principles for identification of morphemes.
- Identifying plural morphemes of English and Identifying past tense morphemes of English.

Introductory Syntax :

- Syntax and morphology
- Modern approaches to syntax
- Constituent and construction
- Types of construction – endocentric and exocentric
- Immediate constituent analysis.
- Syntactic Devices : Coordination or conjoining, subordination or embedding, substitution.
- Function words and content words :
- Grammatical categories and parts of speech.
- Models of Grammatical Description : Item and arrangement; item and process; word and paradigm.
- Aims of grammar
- Levels of grammatical adequacy
- Phrase structure Grammar : Context free and context sensitive phrase structure grammar.
- Introduction to transformational generative grammar.

Basic Elements of Semantics

- Semantics and its scope.
- Types of Meaning
- Componential Analysis
- Semantic Oppositions

- Sense Relations : Synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy and incompatibility; part – whole relations.
- Homonymy and Polysemy.
- Semantic Structure of Sentences : Arguments and predicates – predication analysis.
- Selectional restrictions.
- Figurative use of language.
- Approaches to the study of meaning.
- Semantics and pragmatics.

Historical Linguistics :

- Historical linguistics – its definition and scope.
- Historical Linguistics versus descriptive linguistics.
- Genealogical classification of languages.
- Major language families of the world.
- Languages of the Indo-European family.
- Typological classification of language.
- Phonological change : Phonetic and phonemic change.
- Types of sound change – assimilation, dissimilation and some other types of sound change.
- Types of semantic change – narrowing and widening of meaning.
- Analogical change.
- Borrowing I : Lexical and phonological
- Borrowing II : Cultural and intimate.

Language Teaching :

- Linguistics and language teaching – role of linguistics in language teaching.
- Principles of language teaching.
- Native and Foreign language teaching.
- Language skills.
- Methods of Language teaching.
- Selection, graduation and presentation of the teaching materials.
- Contrastive analysis.
- Contrasting languages at phonological, grammatical and lexical levels.
- Error Analysis : Mistakes, lapses and errors; transfer errors and analogical errors.
- Stages in Error Analysis : Recognition, description and explanation of errors.
- Language Testing : Subjective and objective tests; types of objective tests; open ended and multiple choice tests.
- Audio visual aids in language teaching.
- The language laboratory and language teaching.

Language and Literature

- Characteristics of the language of literature.
- Linguistics and critical approaches to the study of literature.

- The term `stylistics' – its definition and scope.
- The Term `Style' : Various senses and definitions of the term `style' – linguistics and non linguistics definitions of style.
- Style as the choice between alternative expressions.
- Style as deviation from the norm.
- Phonological Analysis of Poems.
- Stylistic Devices I : Alliteration, Consonance, assonance, rhyme.
- Stylistic Devices II : Foregrounding, parallelism, repletion, antithesis.
- Phonological and lexical cohesion.

Language and Society :

- The relationship of language and Society – Sociolinguistics and its scope.
- Alternative approaches to the social study of language.
- The concept of speech community; verbal repertoire.
- Language variation – describing the varieties of language.
- The social parameters of variation.
- Ethnography of communication; communicative competence.
- Language diversity – bilingualism and multilingualism.
- The concept of `diglossia'.
- Languages in contact – borrowing
- Pidgin and creole; code switching and code mixing.
- Language policy and language planning.
- Corpus and status planning.
- Language standardization and modernization.
- Language diversity in India – issues and problems.