



Universidade de Vigo

Variation and Change in English

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GUÍA DOCENTE E MATERIAL DIDÁCTICO

2021/2022

***MÁSTER INTERUNIVERSITARIO EN ESTUDOS INGLESES AVANZADOS E AS SÚAS
APLICACIÓNS***

AUTORES: Dolores González Álvarez, María José López Couso, Belén Méndez Naya e
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fotocopia ou outros) sen consentimento expreso por escrito dos autores.

NOMBRE DE LA ASIGNATURA / COURSE NAME

Variation and Change in English

CRÉDITOS ECTS / CREDITS

3 ECTS

CARÁCTER / COURSE TYPE

Optional

CUATRIMESTRE / TERM

Second semester

REQUISITOS PREVIOS RECOMENDADOS / PRIOR REQUIREMENTS

None

OBJETIVOS/OBJECTIVES

The aim of this module is to familiarise students with the major issues and methodologies of variationist research as well as to equip them with the necessary skills and tools to identify, analyse and interpret particular cases of variation and/or linguistic change at the different levels of analysis (phonological, morphosyntactic, lexical and semantico-pragmatic).

COMPETENCIAS / COMPETENCES

G01, G02, G03, G04, G05, G06, G07, G08, G09, G10, E01, E02, E06.

CONTENIDOS / CONTENTS

1. Introduction
2. Historical Linguistics: main tenets, methodologies.
3. Variation and change at different levels:
 - 3.1 Phonology
 - 3.2 Lexis
 - 3.3 Semantics and pragmatics
 - 3.4 Morphology
 - 3.5 Syntax
4. Variation and change: frameworks.
 - 4.1 Grammaticalisation and construction grammar
 - 4.2 Historical sociolinguistics

METODOLOGÍA / TEACHING METHODOLOGY

This course combines lectures and seminars, together with online coursework and other assignments.

Each student will be assigned a topic for a written paper and an oral presentation.

DISTRIBUCIÓN DE ACTIVIDADES / ACTIVITY DISTRIBUTION

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| Lectures | 5h | 100% attendance |
| In-class interactive seminars | 7h | 100% attendance |
| Tutoring | 2h | 100% attendance |
| Active participation in online forums | 4h | 0% attendance |
| Online self-assessment activities | 2h | 0% attendance |
| Assignments and paper writing | 30h | 0% attendance |
| Recommended readings and bibliographic search | 25h | 0% attendance |

EVALUACIÓN / ASSESSMENT

First opportunity:

1. 10% Attendance and active participation in the sessions. Please note that attendance to the sessions is compulsory. (Assessed competences: G04, G06, G07)
2. 30% Exercises (e.g. in-class or home assignments) to be submitted via the teaching platform. (Assessed competences: G01, G02, G03, G04, G05, G06, G07, G08, E01, E02, E06)
3. 60% Oral presentation and paper (1,500 words, excluding references). (Assessed competences: G01, G02, G03, G04, G05, G06, G07, G08, G09, G10, E01, E02, E06)

In order to pass this module, students must obtain at least a mark of 50 (out of 100) in items 2 and 3.

Second opportunity:

Students will have to repeat only those parts (exercise(s) and paper) in which they did not reach a pass in the first opportunity.

Students officially exempt from class attendance:

Students will have to hand in all course exercises (40%) and submit an essay on a case study (2,000 words excluding references) (60%).

All exercises and tests will be done in English. Overall correctness in language and in the use of formal conventions is indispensable. Therefore, grammatical and orthographic mistakes will be penalised.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA RECOMENDADA / RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Aitchinson, Jean. 1990. *Language Change: Progress or Decay?* 2nd edn. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Bergs, Alexander & Laurel J. Brinton (eds.). 2012. *English Historical Linguistics. An International Handbook*. 2 vols. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter.
- Brinton, Laurel J. (ed.). 2017. *English historical Linguistics. Approaches and Perspectives*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Brinton, Laurel J. & Leslie K. Arnovick. 2011. *The English Language. A Linguistic History*. 2nd edn. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Brinton, Laurel J. & Elizabeth C. Traugott. 2005. *Lexicalization and Language Change*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Burridge, Kate & Alexander Bergs. 2017. *Understanding Language Change*. London: Routledge.
- Campbell, Lyle. 1998. *Historical Linguistics. An Introduction*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- Chambers, J.K., Peter Trudgill & Natalie Schilling-Estes (eds.). 2013. *The Handbook of Language Variation and Change*. 2nd edn. London: Blackwell Publishing Ltd.
- Fischer, Olga. 2007. *Morphosyntactic Change*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Hock, Hans Henrich & Brian D. Joseph. 1996. *Language History, Language Change and Language Relationship. An Introduction to Historical and Comparative Linguistics*. Berlin & New York: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Hogg, Richard & David Denison (eds.). 2006. *A History of the English Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Hopper, Paul J. & Elizabeth C. Traugott. 2003. *Grammaticalization*. 2nd edn. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Joseph, Brian D. & Richard D. Janda (eds.). 2003. *The Handbook of Historical Linguistics*. Oxford: Blackwell.

- Jucker, Andreas H. & Irma Taavitsainen (eds.). 2010. *Historical Pragmatics*. Berlin & New York: De Gruyter.
- Kytö, Merja & Päivi Pahta (eds.). 2016. *The Cambridge Handbook of English Historical Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Labov, William. 1994. *Principles of Linguistic Change. Volume 1: Internal Factors*. Oxford: UK & Cambridge USA: Blackwell.
- Labov, William. 2001. *Principles of Linguistic Change. Volume 2: External Factors*. Oxford: UK & Cambridge USA: Blackwell.
- Lass, Roger. 1997. *Historical Linguistics and Language Change*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- McMahon, April. 1994. *Understanding Language Change*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Nevalainen, Terttu & Helena Raumolin-Brunberg. 2003. *Historical Sociolinguistics*. London: Longman.
- Narrog, Heiko & Bernd Heine (eds.). 2011. *The Oxford Handbook of Grammaticalization*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Samuels, Michael L. 1972. *Linguistic Evolution, with Special Reference to English*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Schendl, Herbert. 2001. *Historical Linguistics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Trask, Robert Lawrence. 1994. *Language Change*. London & New York: Routledge.
- Trask, Robert Lawrence. 1996. *Historical Linguistics*. London: Arnold.
- Traugott, Elizabeth C. & Richard B. Dasher. 2002. *Regularity in Semantic Change*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Traugott, Elizabeth C. & Graeme Trousdale. 2013. *Constructionalization and Constructional Changes*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

COMPLEMENTARY BIBLIOGRAPHY

Whenever necessary, the list of basic bibliography will be complemented with specialised literature.

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| OTRA INFORMACIÓN Y/O RECOMENDACIONES / FURTHER INFORMATION |
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Students are expected to complete all assignments and readings suggested by the lecturer(s), and to come to the sessions prepared to discuss them. Students must visit the eLearning platform for the course regularly. Students are expected to check their university email on a regular basis: announcements and last-minute changes will be notified via the teaching platform.

Academic misconduct (including cheating, plagiarism, collusion or fabrication of results) will not be tolerated and will be penalised.

Lecturers' e-mail addresses

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