

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur

Proposal for a New Course

1. Course No: ENG 7**

2. Course Title: DIALECTOLOGY

3. Per Week Lectures: 3 (L), Tutorial: 0 (T), Laboratory: 0 (P), Additional hours: (0-2): 0 (A), Credits (0*L+0*T+3P+A): 5.

Duration of Course: Half Semester (Modular).

4. Proposing Department/IDP: Humanities and Social Sciences.

Other Departments/IDPs which may be interested in the proposed course:

Other faculty members interested in teaching the proposed course:

5. Proposing Instructor(s): Chaithra Puttaswamy

Course Objectives:

To introduce the methodology, procedures and frameworks related to the study of regional and social variation found in languages.

Course Template:

1 Introduction 3 hours

Dialect: definitions; language and dialect, idiolect, dialect and accent;
Dialectology: study of regional/geographical variation in language- accent, vocabulary, morphology, syntax; mapping of regional variation; related terms: dialect geography, linguistic geography, geo-linguistics.

2 Methodology 4 hours

Methods in dialectology- questionnaires, selection of consultants and localities, identification of and mapping of linguistic features; new technology and recording of dialects and dialect areas; Social dialects, social and urban dialectology

3 Dialect Maps 5 hours

Isogloss, bundles of isoglosses, dialect maps, dialect atlases, dialect areas- focal, transitional and relic, sub-dialect areas, dialect boundaries, contiguous and noncontiguous dialect areas

4 Dialects in contact

5 hours

Maintenance and loss of dialects, dialect contact, dialect borrowings, dialect leveling, new dialect formation, koineisation; micro-linguistic areas

5 Perceptual dialectology

3 hours

Attitudes towards standard and non-standard dialects, speakers' perspectives on dialect areas and dialect boundaries

Course Readings:

1. Beal, J. C. 2006. Language and Region. London and New York: Routledge
2. Chambers, J. K. and P. Trudgill. 1980. Dialectology. UK, USA, Australia: Cambridge University Press
3. Francis, W. N. 1983. Dialectology: An Introduction. London and New York: Longman
4. Itagi, N. H. and S. K. Singh. 2002. Linguistic Landscaping in India. Mysore: Central Institute of Indian Languages
5. Long, D. and D. R. Preston (eds.). 2002. Handbook of Perceptual Dialectology Volume 2. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
6. Petyt, K. M. 1980. The Study of dialect: An Introduction to Dialectology. London: Andre Deutsch
7. Preston, D. R. (ed.). 1999. Handbook of Perceptual Dialectology Volume 1. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
8. Trudgill, P, 1983. On Dialect. Oxford: Blackwell

Dated: December 21, 2025 Proposer: Chaithra Puttaswamy

Dated: _____

DUGC/DPGC Convener:

The course is approved / not approved

Chairman, SUGC/SPGC

Dated: