

**Module Title:** Sociolinguistic Variation and Change

**Module Code:** LIN5211

**Credit Value:** 15

**Level:** 5

**Pre-requisite modules:**

### **Content Description**

This module offers an in-depth investigation of language variation as a social phenomenon. Building on the knowledge acquired in LIN4201 English in Use, we identify the major theoretical principles that govern language variation and change, and develop a variety of quantitative methodologies for investigating them. In addition to being exposed to classic pieces of research in the field, students also gain first-hand experience in conducting sociolinguistic research projects of their own.

Throughout this module, students will learn to:

- Understand the different ways in which linguistic system can vary
- Identify different types of constraints on variation and learn how to study these quantitatively
- Make connections between the properties of variable linguistic systems and the social world more broadly