

English Language & Linguistics
INDICATIVE READING FOR STAGE 1 MODULES

There's no specific preparation that you need to do for your semester 1 SELLL modules in Language/Linguistics, and no textbooks that you need to buy for these courses. Your lecturers and seminar tutors will introduce you to the topics when teaching starts in September, and the materials you need will either be provided by the lecturers or are available through the University Library (or other sites online).

Nevertheless, if you'd like to start getting into the swing of things before the semester begins, the following websites (blogs and podcasts etc) provide useful introductions to various aspects of language and linguistics:

- [All Things Linguistic](#) (a blog by Gretchen McCulloch), which includes "[A very long list of linguistics YouTube channels and other free online videos about linguistics](#)"
- [Citizen Sociolinguistics](#): varieties of language experience (a blog by Betsy Rymes)
- [Crash Course Linguistics](#) (a 'Crash Course' series on YouTube; by Gretchen McCulloch, Lauren Gawne and Jessi Grieser; presented by Taylor Behnke)
- [Lingthusiasm](#) (a podcast by Gretchen McCulloch and Lauren Gawne)

Once you've registered, you will be able to access various resources, including the many e-books that are available online through the University Library (you will be asked to enter your University login ID and password when you click on the link under 'View Online' on the relevant Library Catalogue page). Some examples of books that provide accessible introductions to the study of language generally, and/or to specific areas of linguistics include:

- Adger, David. 2019. *Language Unlimited: The science behind our most creative power*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. [The Library Catalogue page with a link for online access to the book is: [here](#)]
- Meyer, Charles F. 2009. *Introducing English Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [Library Catalogue page: [here](#)]
- Plag, Ingo, Sabine Arndt-Lappe, Maria Braun and Mareile Schramm. 2015. *Introduction to English Linguistics*, 3rd edition. [Library Catalogue page: [here](#)]
- Roberts, Ian. 2017. *The Wonders of Language: Or how to make noises and influence people*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [Library Catalogue page: [here](#)]

When you arrive on campus, you'll naturally also get access to the many hardcopy books available in the University Library. For example, Gretchen McCulloch (the author of a number of the blogs/podcasts listed above) has recently published a book that explores how the English language is developing in an online context:

- McCulloch, Gretchen. 2019. *Because Internet: Understanding the new rules of language*. London: Vintage.
- *This book is available at shelfmark "302.231 MCC" in the Philip Robinson Library. Other Language/Linguistics books are nearby and also at shelfmarks beginning around 400-430. For example:*
- Crystal, David. 2003. *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*, 2nd edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [Available via the University Library, shelf mark: 420.9 CRY.]