



Overview of Bridging Course

<i>Department: English Language</i>	
<i>What is the focus of this bridging course?</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In this course students will be introduced to some key concepts and ideas which underpin the study of English Language at A Level • They will learn about different attitudes to language and how these can be categorised. • They will look at the role of dictionaries and lexicographers in shaping attitudes to language and language change. • They will look at some forms of linguistic prejudice, such as accentism. • They will explore the relationship between language and gender, and how gender intersects with ideas about accent, to develop their understanding of why linguistic prejudice exists. • They will learn about how to investigate language and will complete their own mini language investigation. 	
<i>w/b 27 April</i>	<p><i>Overview of what students will cover this week:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will learn how attitudes to language and language change can be categorised. • They will learn what is meant by prescriptivism and descriptivism • They will explore prescriptivist and descriptivist attitudes • They will read work by the seminal scholar of English Language, David Crystal, on the future of the English Language • They will be introduced to political correctness as an usual example of prescriptivism.
<i>w/b 4 May</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will explore language change in context. • They will look at how and why language change appears in the news. • They will look at the work of lexicographers and debates surrounding their work. • They will look at the role of dictionaries and debates surrounding their purpose. • They will look at socio-historical influences on language – for example, how has the Covid 19 Pandemic changed how we use language? • Students will write an essay on this topic
<i>w/b 11 May</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will further explore the relationship between language and society and will be introduced to the topics of language and gender and accent and dialect. • They will study accentism and debates surrounding this. • They will look at some debates to do with language and gender. • They will look at the relationship between accent and gender.
<i>w/b 18 May</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be introduced to the idea of investigating language, in particular, to attitudinal studies. • They will carry out their own mini language investigation on either attitudes to emoji use or attitudes to taboo language. • They will document their findings.
<i>Work that will students will receive feedback on:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will receive detailed feedback on their week 2 essay and their week 4 mini investigation. 	