Unit Specification

ISL420 – Extended Sign Language Linguistics

H/506/4826

Sept 2017 – Aug 2018

UNIT SPECIFICATION

Unit ISL420 – Extended Sign Language Linguistics

(RQF Unit Number: H/506/4826)

Guided Learning Hours	Additional study/practice	Total Learning Time	Credit value at Level 4
40	20	60	6

Unit aim:

This unit is for learners who wish to develop their knowledge and skills in Irish Sign Language linguistics and grammar. It will support the requirements described in the assessment criteria of units ISL421 and ISL422 and enable learners to apply their linguistic knowledge when undertaking those units. It is recommended that learners complete the assessment for this unit first.

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
On completion of this unit, the leaner will:	On completion of this unit, the learner can:
1. Understand the use of ISL grammatical features relating to phonology	1.1 Explain the phonological make-up of signs in ISL a. Handshape b. Location c. Movement d. Orientation e. Non-manual features 1.2 Describe the different configurations of signs in ISL a. One-handed b. Two-handed symmetrical c. Two-handed non-symmetrical 1.3 Describe the phonological rules of ISL and explain how they differ to other signed and spoken languages 1.4 Describe the difference between syllables in signed and spoken languages

2. Understand the use of ISL grammatical features relating to morphology	2.1 Describe the different verb classes in ISL
	a. Plain verbs
	b. Agreement verbs
	c. Classifier verbs
	2.2 Describe how tense, aspect and mood are used in ISL
	2.3 Describe how nouns are used in ISL
	a. Personal pronouns
	b. Possessive pronouns
	c. Plurality in nouns
	2.4 Describe the different types of classifiers in ISL and how they are used
	a. Entity classifiers
	b. Handling classifiers
	c. Tracing classifiers
	2.5 Explain the difference between the established and productive lexicons

3. Understand the use of ISL grammatical features relating to syntax	3.1 Define the different syntactic roles
	a. Subject
	b. Agent
	c. Direct object
	d. Indirect object
	e. Transitive verb
	f. Intransitive verb
	3.2 Explain how eye-gaze is used to mark syntactic roles in ISL
	3.3 Explain how classifiers are used to mark syntactic roles in ISL
	3.4 Describe how information is structured in ISL
	3.5 Explain the different interrogative constructions in ISL
	a. Closed questions
	b. Open questions
	c. Tag questions
	3.6 Explain the different negative constructions in ISL
	a. Negating manual signs
	b. Negated lexical verbs
	c. Negative mood
	d. Strong and weak negation
	3.7 Explain the different types and uses of space in ISL
	a. Syntactic space
	b. Topographic space
	c. Hierarchy
	3.8 Describe how connectors are used in ISL

4. Understand sociolinguistics of ISL	4.1 Explain the difference between an accent and a dialect and how they are manifested in ISL
	4.2 Explain the process of standardisation and how it relates to ISL
	4.3 Explain the purpose of signed and non-verbal cultural conventions
	4.4 Explain turn-taking conventions in ISL
	4.5 Define style and register and explain how they are used in ISL
	4.6 Describe how ISL is used among different age groups

ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATION

Please read this specification in conjunction with Signature Assessment Regulations on our website.

Assessment for this unit will be split into different parts as detailed below:

Assessment	Method of assessment
1. Linguistic Analysis: Phonology	Internally assessed by the centre
2. Linguistic Analysis: Morphology	Internally assessed by the centre
3. Linguistic Analysis: Syntax	Internally assessed by the centre
4. Linguistic Analysis: Sociolinguistics	Internally assessed by the centre
5. 1 hour written Assessment	Externally assessed by Signature

Important Notice: All Internally Assessed Units will be Externally Quality Assured by Signature.

Parts 1 to 4 - **Linguistic Analysis**

Candidates will be asked to produce a linguistic analysis for each Learning Outcome on a pre-recorded two-way discussion in ISL. The candidate will be expected to discuss the different elements of linguistics used in the discussion.

Notes

- The pre-recorded discussion can be either:
- the candidate's own evidence clip that could also be used for ISL421 and/or ISL422

    OR

- chosen by the centre
- A different clip must be used for each part (1 to 4). Candidates can use more than one clip for each part if necessary.
- Each clip must be at least 5 minutes in length.

The teacher-assessor should fill in the relevant Candidate Assessment Record (CAR) Form(s) for these sections to show which assessment criteria has been met.

Part 5

Assessment for Part 5 will take the form of a 60 minute written question paper based on the content of this unit.

This will be externally marked by Signature.

The pass mark for Part 5 is 75%.

The evidence collected for parts 1 to 4 will be internally assessed by appropriately qualified staff at the centre and externally moderated by Signature. The CAR forms that show candidates have achieved parts 1 to 4 must be returned to Signature, at the same time as sending Part 5 to Signature for marking.

Candidates must pass all 5 parts to achieve this unit.

Signature
Mersey House
Mandale Business Park
Belmont
Durham DH1 1TH

Telephone: 0191 383 1155
Textphone: 0191 383 7915
Fax: 0191 383 7914
Email: customersupport@signature.org.uk
Website: www.signature.org.uk

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