Veranstalter/in:	Eva Maria Luef
Modul:	Survey of Language and Linguistics
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer:	
Zeit:	
Raum:	
Beginn:	

## **Course Description**

The lecture is intended to provide an introduction to the study of linguistics as a science. It accompanies the course "Introduction to Linguistics". Linguistics aims to observe languages and describe them accurately, to find generalizations within what has been described, and to draw conclusions about the general nature of human language. We will address a number of topics, ranging from traditional subjects of structural linguistics (relating to sound, form, meaning) to the more specialized subjects of contextual linguistics (including social variation, culture, psychology). Theoretical as well as applied viewpoints on language will be discussed.

The starting point of the lecture is what goes by the name of "philosophy of science". What does it mean for an approach to be scientific? How do scientists go about examining their object of study? We then apply these principles to linguistics and discuss the role of language and linguistics in the canon of scientific disciplines. A good deal of attention will be paid to linguistic methodology. The definition of linguistics as an empirical science throws the data problem into relief. What data types qualify as suitable for which purposes? How are data collected and analyzed? A part of the lecture course brings the English language into focus. How did it develop historically? What are the patterns of its regional variation? What is its status compared to other languages?

Sprechstunden im Semester:	s. Sprechstundenliste
Sprechstunden in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	s. Sprechstundenliste