



APPLIED LINGUISTICS

PROF. RAJESH KUMAR

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
IIT Madras

INTENDED AUDIENCE : BA, MA, B El Ed, B.Ed. PhD, Machine Translations, Artificial Intelligence, and Cognitive Science

COURSE OUTLINE :

Language is an essential part of all that we do. It defines us as humans. This course deals with the applications of theoretical tools in understanding languages and out come of the analyses of theoretical tools. We aim to have delivered the applications of the fundamental ideas of language to the fields such as language teaching and learning, cognitive science, education, and language disorder and disabilities.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR :

Prof. Rajesh Kumar is a professor of linguistics in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai. He obtained his PhD in linguistics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Prior to joining IIT Madras, he taught at IIT Kanpur and IIT Patna in India and at the University of Texas at Austin in the USA. He has been a visiting faculty at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai in India. His book on Syntax of Negation and Licensing of Negative Polarity Items was published by Routledge in their prestigious series Outstanding Dissertations in Linguistics in 2006. He has been associate editor of the journal Language and Language Teaching. He has been part of the language teaching program at all the institutions he has been affiliated with. The broad goal of his research is uncovering regularities underlying both the structural form (what language is) and sociolinguistic functions (what language does) of natural language. He works on structure of South Asian Languages. He is keenly interested in issues related to language (multilingualism) in education; politics; human cognition; and landscape.

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COURSE PLAN :

Week 1: Applied Linguistics

Week 2: Introduction to Language

Week 3: Structure of Language

Week 4: Language and Society

Week 5: Multilingualism and Language Learning

Week 6: First Language Acquisition

Week 7: Second Language Acquisition

Week 8: Language and Cognition

Week 9: Disabilities

Week 10: Cohesion and Coherence

Week 11: Behaviorism and Language Teaching

Week 12: Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis