

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- [www.unine.ch/lettres](http://www.unine.ch/lettres)

## Seminar: Change in Contemporary English (2AN1113)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
<b>Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	<b>cont. continu</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Pilier principal M A - sciences du langage et de la communication</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	<b>cont. continu</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	<b>cont. continu</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Pilier secondaire M A - sciences du langage et de la communication</b>	<b>Séminaire: 2 ph</b>	<b>cont. continu</b>	<b>5</b>

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

### Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps

### Equipe enseignante:

Dr. Dorota Smyk-Bhattacharjee

### Objectifs:

The aim of the course is to introduce the students to the study of language change.

### Contenu:

Language is always changing. It is most visible when we look at its vocabulary. If there was no change we would have no words to talk about, for example, computers or digital communication. It is easy to list words that have recently been introduced (e.g. chillaxing, binge-watching and smartphone) or think about the constructions that came out of use (How do you do?). Grammar, meaning and language use are not immune to changes either, what differs is the speed at which they happen. Some of the current changes in English are the increase of the progressive form (I'm being serious vs. I'm serious or I should be going rather than I should go) and new ways of reported speech (She is like..., She goes..., She is all...)

In this seminar we will investigate types and reasons why Contemporary English is changing. We will also learn about the ways these changes can be observed and tested.

### Forme de l'évaluation:

- Regular reading assignments and participation in class discussions (20%)
- An oral presentation of the assigned research article (20%)
- A small empirical project (60%)

[Failure will incur a rattrapage of a longer term paper (approx. 6,000 words, 100%).]

### Documentation:

Reading material for the sessions and additional course information will be made available on Moodle.

### Pré-requis:

Students need to have taken an Introduction to Linguistics.

### Forme de l'enseignement:

Séminaire