

COURSE DETAIL

LIFE AND DEATH OF LANGUAGES: DIVERSITY, IDENTITY AND GLOBALIZATION

Country

Hong Kong

Host Institution

University of Hong Kong

Program(s)

University of Hong Kong

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Sociology Linguistics International Studies

UCEAP Course Number

138

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

LIFE AND DEATH OF LANGUAGES: DIVERSITY, IDENTITY AND GLOBALIZATION

UCEAP Transcript Title

LANG DIV/ID/GLOBAL

UCEAP Quarter Units

5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description

This course critically examines the issue of endangered languages, focusing on the impacts of globalization, ethnic identity, and language policies on language survival. It explores historical and contemporary factors, including population movements, war, trade, and colonization, that have shaped linguistic diversity. The course investigates why a small number of global languages dominate while thousands of minor languages face decline, and considers debates around language preservation, revitalization, and the pressures of modernity. Students analyze the political, cultural, and educational forces that influence language use and endangerment, developing insight into the tension between preserving linguistic heritage and adapting to a globalized world.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

CCGL9024

Host Institution Course Title

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Host Institution Course Details

https://www4.hku.hk/pubunit/drcd/files/ugdr2025-26/All/Common_Core.pdf

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Common Core

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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