Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

French Linguistics: Specific Problems: Variation (A001724)

Course
Description of the phenomenon of “variation” from different perspectives.

Four modules are proposed:
1. Description of the specificity of spoken French (and its registers) at the phonetic, morphological, lexical and, especially, syntactic-pragmatic level (prof. P. Lauwers; 10 h)
2. Description of the linguistic situation of French in Belgium (prof. P. Lauwers; 12.5 h).
3. Description of the linguistic situation of French in Africa (Prof. P. Hadermann; 5 h).
4. Description of the linguistic situation of French in Canada (Prof. P. Hadermann; 2.5 h.

Teaching languages
French

Keywords
Language variation, spoken French, Belgian French, French in Africa and Canada, sociolinguistics

Position of the course
This course aims to broaden the knowledge of French Linguistics by considering the phenomenon of “variation” from different perspectives.

Contents
Four modules are proposed:
1. Description of the specificity of spoken French (and its registers) at the phonetic, morphological, lexical and, especially, syntactic-pragmatic level (prof. P. Lauwers; 10 h)
2. Description of the linguistic situation of French in Belgium (prof. P. Lauwers; 12.5 h).
3. Description of the linguistic situation of French in Africa (Prof. P. Hadermann; 5 h).
4. Description of the linguistic situation of French in Canada (Prof. P. Hadermann; 2.5 h.

(Approved)
h) Initial competences

This course requires a solid insight in the functioning of linguistic systems and builds on "French Linguistics I" and "French Linguistics IV". Language proficiency level: C1.

Final competences

1. students have acquired insight in the various dimensions of language variation (with respect to the norm)
2. students have a sound factual knowledge of some important variants of contemporary French (esp. spoken French, Belgian French, French spoken in Africa)
3. students have a clear insight in the (sociolinguistic and historical) background of the variants of French, within the global situation of multilingualism
4. students understand that French is not a monolithic bloc but, instead, that there is more and more room for a polycentric vision within the broader framework of the "Francophonie"
5. students have the means to compare / to align their own variant with the other possible variants of French
6. students are able to synthesize a serious amount of information and to present it to a group in an interactive way (development of teaching skills) in academic French (C1).
7. students improve their French language proficiency by studying vocabulary related to colloquial French and Belgian French in a contrastive fashion.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Group work, lecture, microteaching, seminar

Extra information on the teaching methods

Interactive lectures (parts of which are devoted to the analysis of data by the students) + micro-teaching by the students

Learning materials and price

Powerpoints/hand-outs and (partim) course notes (3 euros); some literature

References

Selective bibliography, cf. course notes

Course content-related study coaching

Collective and individual, during and after seminars.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Written examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Job performance assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

written examen + micro-teaching

Calculation of the examination mark

written exam (70%) ; micro-teaching (group) (30%)

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from certain educational activities requiring student attendance (every student is obliged to give an oral presentation)
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3. Alternative time for feedback is possible

(Approved)
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy.

(Approved)