Theory and Praxis of Discourse Analysis (A000935)

Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021
A (semester 2)  English  lecture  20.0 h
self-reliant study activities  5.0 h
project  15.0 h
fieldwork  10.0 h
guided self-study  0.0 h

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

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<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>crdts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics (main subject Cognitive and Functional Linguistics)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics (main subject Linguistics in a Comparative Perspective)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics (main subject Multilingual and Foreign Language Learning and Teaching)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics (main subject Natural Language Processing: Theory and Practice)</td>
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Teaching languages
English

Keywords
Discourse analysis, language in society, interdisciplinary approach.

Position of the course
This course offers insight into the field of the discourse analytical practice as an area of tension between linguistic research and problem-oriented social research in which linguistic matters are central.

Contents
Following questions are dealt with in the course:
What is “discourse” and what is “discourse analysis”? Which aspects do the various traditions emphasize (advantages and disadvantages, interdisciplinary origin and connections, prevalent research practice) and how do they deal with following themes:
• the “social character of language use” and the “linguistic character of the social”
• the tension between the “micro” and the “macro” as a problem of description, interpretation and explanation
• the problem of “structuring” (social structure and individual agency)
• what is “context” and what is its relation to the “text”? 
• the connections between situated discourse forms, technologies of power exercise and ideology
• the problem of “the (scientific) truth”.

Initial competences
To have successfully completed the Master in Language and Literature or comparable master programmes with a linguistic-scientific basis.

Final competences
1 To be able to interpret and apply discourse analytical concepts.
2 To develop a critical understanding of scientific publications and developments in the field.
3 To be able to draw up a discourse analysis on the basis of self-collected and transcribed linguistic data.
4 To have an insight in the connections between micro analytical observations and historical-methodological concerns.

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
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods
Guided self-study, lecture, project, fieldwork, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods
- Lecture: exploration of theoretical concepts and literature.
- Project: individual project activities with personalised coaching + feedback from fellow students during or after the teaching sessions or via Minerva.
- Fieldwork: observation and registration of social interaction in situated contexts on the basis of analytical methods discussed in class.
- Self-reliant study activities: analysis of self-collected data materials and preparation of oral presentation and paper + reading (ahead of time) of articles and chapters discussed in class.

Learning materials and price
On-line resources of the materials used (to be printed from the electronic learning environment):
- Handouts exploring basic theoretical concepts and analytical methods + data materials.
- A reader comprising academic articles and chapters from books.
Cost: 10,00 €

References
To be provided in class and made available on-line.

Course content-related study coaching
- Individual coaching in class.
- Exchange of ideas on the internet forum.
- Office hours.

Evaluation methods
continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Oral examination, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods
- Oral exam: students present their ‘work in progress’ (paper presentation in class).
- Essay: students develop their oral presentation (and feedback from lecturer and fellow students) into a written essay.

Calculation of the examination mark
- Oral presentation: 30%
- Written assessment: 70%

Facilities for Working Students
1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3. Alternative time for feedback is possible
For more information concerning flexible learning; contact the monitoring service of the

(Approved)
faculty of Arts and philosophy