



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

ENGM23, English: Discourse Semantics - from Words to Discourses, 7.5 credits

Engelska: Diskurssemantik - från ord till diskurser, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2014-08-14 to be valid from 2014-09-01, autumn semester 2014.

General Information

Subject: English The course is offered as a free-standing course and can normally be included as part of a first- or second-cycle degree. With the approval of the relevant authenticating body, it can also be included in certain professional degrees.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

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Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to understand and discuss recent research in English within the field of socio-cognitive discourse semantics/ lexical semantics and discourse pragmatics,
- be able to understand the basic theoretical assumptions and priorities of the theories in the research fields,
- be able to formulate relevant research questions related to the English language based on the course literature on socio-cognitive discourse semantics/lexical semantics and discourse pragmatics,

Competence and skills

- be able to carry out a simple, yet autonomously formulated, research assignment based on English data within the field of socio-cognitive discourse semantics, in which a specific method and/or theory is applied,
- be able to assess the theoretical implications of empirical observations in relation to the basic theoretical assumptions,
- be able to discuss the implications of how (English) words mean and how language, English in particular, is used in different contexts and different discourses,

Judgement and approach

- be able to critically assess research articles in English with regard to methodology, descriptive adequacy, internal consistency and explanatory value.

Course content

The purpose of this course is to acquaint the student with how English and other languages are used to make meaning in discourse, what this reveals about human thinking and social interaction. The course explores language in use at different levels, ranging from individual words to larger chunks of text in order to emphasize the importance of context for meaning-making and interpretation at all levels. The course incorporates both theoretical and practical modules.

The theoretical components of the course include the relationship between words and conceptual structure, and construals of meanings in use. These theoretical notions are applied to the analysis of concrete instances of discourse, to show how language resources are dynamically and strategically used by speakers to achieve certain communicative goals and shape interpersonal roles and relations.

Relevant methods and techniques are introduced and assessed in relation to what they reveal about the meaningful functioning of language. An assignment of the student's own choice is carried out in order to consolidate their understanding of the key concepts and to make use of and assess the relevant techniques and methods.

The language primarily used, discussed, and analysed in examples, exercises, and assignments is English.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures and seminars.

Assessment

Examinations can take the following forms: written review of articles, oral presentations of article. The final examination is an autonomous research study within the discipline of discourse semantics.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course the student must have attained Bachelor's level in a language or in general linguistics.

Further information

1. The points allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree. For further details see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.
2. The course is offered by the Centre for Languages and Literature.

Subcourses in ENGM23, English: Discourse Semantics - from Words to Discourses

Applies from H14

1401 Discourse Semantics - from Words to Discourses, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction