



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

LINN15, Linguistics: Language in the Visual Modality - Gestures and Sign, 7.5 credits

Lingvistik: Visuellt språk - gester och tecken, 7,5 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2010-10-25 to be valid from 2010-10-25, spring semester 2011.

General Information

The course is an elective component of the Master of Arts programme in Language and Linguistics. The course is also offered as a free-standing course and can be included as part of a first- or second-cycle degree.

Language of instruction: English

The course can be taught in Swedish if an agreement is reached by both the teacher and the students. Such an agreement would depend on both the lecturer and the students having a good knowledge of Swedish.

Main field of studies

Linguistics with specialization in General Linguistics

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to explain visuospatial forms of language and their theoretical relevance
- be able to account for how they affect our understanding of language production and comprehension (psycholinguistic and neurolinguistic)
- be able to account for the interactional consequences of visual forms of language
- be able to account for basic patterns of bimodal language development

Competence and skills

- be able to assess theoretical and empirical aspects of the primary literature (research articles) in the field
- demonstrate fundamental methodological and analytical skills required for analysing multimodal data qualitatively and quantitatively (data collection, coding, data base work, quantification).

Judgement and approach

- be able to approach issues of visuospatial forms of language in a scholarly, analytical and critical manner.

Course content

So far language research has primarily concerned itself with speaking and writing. However, language users also produce meaningful body movements (gestures) in communication. Furthermore, deaf language users express themselves by means of sign language that can only be perceived in the visuospatial modality. This course provides an interdisciplinary introduction to research on the significance of the human body for the form and function of language, and introduces both theoretical and methodological aspects. Richly exemplified with recent research, visuospatial language use is discussed with regard to language learning and multilingualism, embodied cognition, links between language and action, and the neurocognitive underpinnings of multimodal language.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures, compulsory laboratory exercises and follow-up group discussions.

Assessment

Examinations take the form of two short written assignments (corresponding to 10 % each in the final assessment) and a research essay (corresponding to 80 % in the final assessment).

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, students must have either a) 60 credits in linguistics or a language subject, or b) both 60 credits in psychology or cognitive science and 30 credits in linguistics, or c) the equivalent.

Further information

1. The credits 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.

Subcourses in LINN15, Linguistics: Language in the Visual Modality -
Gestures and Sign

Applies from V11

1001 Linguistics: Language in the Visual Modality- Gesture & Sign, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction