



COURSE (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course (module) title	Code
Seminar in English Linguistics (Introduction to Political Discourse) with a term paper / Anglų kalbotyros seminaras (Įvadas į politinį diskursą) su kursiniu darbu	

Teacher(s)	Unit(s)
Co-ordinator: Assoc. Prof. Dr Liudmila Arcimavičienė	Department of English Philology Faculty of Philology

Cycle of studies	Level of course (module)	Type of course (module)
MA	Optional	Optional

Mode of implementation	Period of instruction	Language(s) of instruction
Face to face	Spring	English

Requirements for students	
Standard reference categories of linguistic description	Additional requirements (if any): English proficiency level: B2-C1

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student workload	Contact hours	Independent study hours
5	135	48	87

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed
<u>Generic competencies to be developed (as per the aims of the English Studies programme):</u> - Students' responsibility to set goals, choose and use resources necessary for the completion of a task, plan their time and follow deadlines. - Students' cooperation and teamwork by setting common goals, sharing information, and looking for solutions together. - Students' intercultural competence by showing respect and openness to other cultures, ability to work in a multicultural environment. - Students' development of problem-solving skills while identifying problems and facing challenges in their own and related fields; ability to identify problems by finding, analysing, and critically assessing relevant information, generate new ideas, choose the most optimal solutions. - Students' openness to change by being open to new ideas, striving to change, and being creative and innovative; ability to evaluate the quality of their actions and achievements and will strive to acquire the competencies necessary for future change. <u>Subject-specific competencies (as per the aims of the English Studies programme):</u> - Essential knowledge of the theory of political discourse and its research methods. - Critical awareness of the structural aspects of political discourse, and the linguistic representation of various political concepts. - Raising awareness of the inter-disciplinarity nature of political discourse analysis and its contribution to both linguistic studies and social sciences. - Identification and explanation of political concepts, exploring their representation in a broader social context, using appropriate terminology and methods. - Understanding of how power relations are organised and linguistically represented at different levels of political text and talk.

Ability to identify and formulate research problems, collect sufficient data and apply appropriate research methods, alongside a foundational understanding of research writing conventions.		
Learning outcomes of the course (module)	Study methods	Assessment methods
Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate:	Interactive lectures and seminars, study reading, interactive test preparation activities, term paper.	Cumulative assessment: - Test paper (40%). - Term paper (4,000 – 5,000 words) (60%).
- The ability to understand the peculiarities of political discourse and its linguistic functions.	Interactive lectures and seminars, study reading.	
- The ability to identify and analyse linguistic features of ideology and identity in political discourse.	Interactive lectures and seminars, study reading.	
- The ability to identify and analyse linguistic features of populism and leadership styles.	Interactive lectures and seminars, study reading.	
- The ability to identify and analyse violence categories in conflict discourse.	Interactive lectures and seminars, study reading.	
- The ability to apply the key concepts of political discourse to the analysis of an authentic data sample.	Term paper (4,000 – 5,000 words)	

Topics	Contact hours							Independent study time and assignments	
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Practice	Laboratory work	Practice	Total contact hours	Independent work	Assignments
1. Introduction to the course unit: Aims, structure, assessment. Definition of political discourse. The dimensions of politics, language and power and their inter-relatedness. <i>Term paper writing: Mind-mapping.</i>	2		2				4	8	Chilton & Schäffner (2011, 303-331) Wilson (2015, 775-794)
2. The concept of ideology and its linguistic representation in political discourse. Van Dijk's ideological square. <i>Term paper writing: Outlining.</i>	2		4				6	8	Van Dijk (1997)

3. The concept of identity and its linguistic representation in political discourse. Gender double bind dilemma. <i>Term paper writing: Data sampling.</i>	2		4				6	8	Bamberg, De Fina & Schiffrin (2011, 177-199)
4. The concept of the body politic and its metaphorical representation in political discourse. The body politic tradition. <i>Term paper writing: Focusing on methodology.</i>	2		4				6	8	Musolff (2016, 55-70; 2021, 15-33)
5. The concept of violence and its linguistic representation in political discourse. Violence categories. <i>Term paper writing: Coding procedure.</i>	2		4				6	8	Maynard (2019)
6. The concept of populism and its linguistic representation in political discourse. Binary oppositions and their use. <i>Term paper writing: Analysing social meanings.</i>	2		4				6	8	Breeze (2019, 27-59)
7. The concept of leadership and its linguistic representation in political discourse. Soft, hard, and smart power skills in leadership styles. <i>Term paper writing: Modelling the findings.</i>	2		4				6	8	Nye (2008, 1-27)
8. Overview of the key ideas and methods of political discourse analysis. <i>Term paper writing: Construction of a conclusion, referencing.</i>			2				2	8	
9. Final test (from theory to practice).			1				1	8	
10. Term paper writing: <i>Reviewing the paper and preparing for submission.</i> Reflection session.			3				3	15	
Total	16		32				48	87	

Attendance requirements
Students must maintain a minimum attendance rate of 70% as there is a well-established and significant link between class attendance and academic performance. If a student's seminar attendance is less than 70%, they will not be eligible to submit their term paper at the end of the course.
Requirements for term paper writing
Term paper writing is an individual activity and must be submitted individually. Peer collaboration is encouraged during the review process.

Assessment strategy	Weight, %	Assessment time	Assessment criteria
Final test (from theory to practice) Three main tasks: 1) Definition and explanation of the key concepts in political discourse. 2) Explanation of the key arguments in political discourse. 3) Interpretation of authentic examples in political discourse.	40%	Week 11-12	Ten -point assessment scale: 10 (excellent). Excellent, exceptional knowledge and abilities. 95-100% of questions answered correctly. 9 (very good). Very good knowledge and abilities. 85-94 % of questions answered correctly. 8 (good). Knowledge and abilities are above average. 75-84 % of questions answered correctly. 7 (average). Average knowledge and abilities; there are a few not essential mistakes. 65-74 % of questions answered correctly. 6 (satisfactory). Knowledge and abilities are below average; there are mistakes. 55-64 % of questions answered correctly. 5 (weak). Knowledge and abilities meet the minimum requirements. 51-54 % of questions answered correctly.

			4 (insufficient). Knowledge and abilities do not meet the minimum requirements. 41-50% of questions answered correctly 3, 2, 1. Minimum requirements are not met.
Term paper	60%	Week 16	Term paper requirements: Word amount: 4,000-5,000. Minimum number of references: 10. <u>The formal structure of the paper</u> should meet the following scheme: Title Page, Abstract, Table of Contents, Introduction, Theoretical Framework, Main Body, Conclusion, References / Bibliography, Summary in Lithuanian, Appendices (if necessary). The text length shall not go below and shall not exceed 4,000-5,000 considerably. Ten-point assessment scale: a) pragmatic competence + structure (60%) linguistic competence + academic conventions (40%)

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or a web link
Compulsory reading list				
Chilton, P., Schäffner, C.	2011	Discourse and politics. Discourse Studies: a multidisciplinary introduction		SAGE publications.
Wilson, J.	2015	Political discourse. In <i>The handbook of discourse analysis</i> (2 nd ed.), 775-794.		Blackwell Publishers.
Chilton, P.	2004	Analysing Political Discourse: Theory and Practice		Routledge: Taylor & Francis Group.
Musolff, A.	2016	Political Metaphor Analysis: Discourse and Scenarios.		Bloomsbury Publishing.
Musolff, A.	2021	National Conceptualisations of the Body Politic Cultural Experience and Political Imagination		Springer.
Arcimavičienė, L.	2023	Leadership Style by Metaphor in Crisis Political Discourse.		Open Linguistics 9 (1), DeGruyter.
Teun A. Van Dijk	2011	Discourse and Ideology		SAGE publications.
Teun A. Van Dijk	1997	What is political discourse analysis?	11(1)	Belgian journal of linguistics, 11-52.

Breeze, R.	2019	Representing the People: Claiming the Heartland in Scottish Election Manifestos. In <i>Populist discourse</i> .		Palgrave Macmillan.
Bamberg, M., De Fina, A., Schiffrin, D.	2011	Discourse and Identity Construction. In <i>Handbook of Identity Theory and Research</i> .		Springer, New York, NY.
Nye, J.	2008	The Powers to Lead		Oxford University Press.
Additional reading list				
Butler, J.	2002	Gender Trouble		Routledge.
Arcimavičienė, L.	2019	Self and Other metaphors as facilitating features of populist style in diplomatic discourse: A case study of Obama and Putin's speeches. In <i>Populist discourse</i> (pp.89-123).		Palgrave Macmillan.
Arcimavičienė, L.	2020	The polarity of collective identity in diplomatic discourse: legitimacy by metaphor. In <i>Euro-American relations in the age of globalization: risks and opportunities</i> , 73-97.		University of Turin.

Updated 2024-01-22.