



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Media linguistics III/ III (media political discourse)/ Medijų lingvistika III/ III (politinio diskurso medIALIZAVIMAS)	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: Assoc. Prof. Dr Liudmila Arcimavičienė Other lecturers: Assist. Prof. Dr Adam Mastandrea, Assist. Prof. Dr Ovidiu Ivancu	Faculty of Philology Institute of Foreign Languages

Study cycle	Level of the course unit (module)	Type of the course unit (module)
Second (MA)	3/3	Mandatory

Mode of delivery	The period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Interactive lectures, seminars, self-study	Autumn semester	English

Course requirements	
Prerequisites: English (C1)	Additional requirements (if any):

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
10	250	64	186

Purpose of the course unit (module): competencies of study program		
<p>The purpose of the course unit is to introduce the theory and practice of mediated political discourse, its meaning construction and deconstruction. The course unit develops the following competencies:</p> <p>(1) generic competencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cognitive; • social; • personal; <p>(2) subject-specific competencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • political meaning construction and ideological deconstruction patterns; • political meaning construction, othering and cultural deconstruction patterns; • political meaning construction and sociolinguistic deconstruction patterns; • political leadership styles and populism in election campaigning; • conspiracy theories and their analysis on social media; • research competence. 		
Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
<p>Learning outcomes resulting from the generic competencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ability to find, analyse, synthesise and evaluate data needed for the studies; 	<p>Individual work (analysis of research articles). Seminars, in-class discussions.</p>	<p>Report on the conceptual framework. Video research project presentations.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ability to apply the acquired knowledge in practice, identify problems and propose solutions; - ability to generate ideas and choose appropriate forms of expression; - ability to seek new knowledge and skills and apply them for tasks in a different social/political context; - ability to take responsibility for the quality of one's own and team's activities; - ability to take initiative and carry out one's activities, rationally assess the strengths and weaknesses of one's work, reflect and be responsible for one's decisions and actions. 		
<p>Learning outcomes resulting from the subject-specific competencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ability to critically evaluate previous research and to establish a conceptual framework and research niche in political discourse studies; - ability to collect and analyse an authentic data sample of mediated political discourse; - ability to practically implement key theoretical insights of political discourse analysis in the context of critical discourse studies; - ability to identify, analyse and evaluate populist discourse/s; - ability to identify and analyse evaluate political disinformation discourse/s. 	<p>Oral presentation of the previous research in political discourse studies; group discussion; individual work.</p>	<p>Report on the conceptual framework. Video research project presentations.</p>

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours						Self-study work: time and assignments		
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Exercises	Laboratory work	Internship/work	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Introduction to the course unit: aims, structure, assessment scheme.	1						1		
2. Political discourse: key concepts and their interdisciplinarity. Politics, discourse, and the media.	2		2				4		T. van Dijk (1997, 11-52) Fetzer & Lauerbach, (2007, 1-32)
3. Media political discourse, ideology, and leadership.	2		2				4		Habermas (2006, 411-426) Torfing & Sorensen (2019, 1-18)
4. Media political discourse and hegemony.	2		2				4		Nye (2019, 63-80) Butler (2000, 11-23)

5. Media political discourse and psychological legitimacy.	2		2				4		Tyler (2006, 375-400)
6. Populist narrative in media political discourse.	2		2				4		Mudde & Kaltwasser (2017, 1-42) Aslanidis (2016, 1-16)
7. Conspiracy narrative in media political discourse.	2		2				4		Chlup (2023, 1-23)
8. Conceptual framework for media political discourse analysis (report).	2		4				6		
9. Summary and course feedback.	1						1		
Total	16		16				32		
10. Populist discourse structure.	3		4				8		Macaulay (2019)
11. The rise of (right-wing) populist discourse in Europe.	2		2				4		Wodak et al. (2013) Kulin et al. (2021)
12. Research methodology and student research project presentations.			4				4		
13. Summary and project feedback.	1								
Total	6		10				16		
14. Disinformation discourse structure.	2		2				4		
15. The role of the social media.	2		2				4		Klein et al. (2019, pp. 1-23)
16. Research methodology.	1		2				4		
17. Student research project presentations.			4				4		Preparation for individual projects. Video project presentation, discussion.
18. Summary and video project feedback.	1								
Total	6		10				16		
Overall	28		36				64		

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria	
Report on the conceptual framework	40	During the semester	Written paper (approx. 2,000 words) on the developed conceptual framework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The selection and definition of the selected concepts, their theoretical overview (10%) • The relationship and connections between the concepts (10%) • A visual representation (i.e., a diagram, flowchart, or a narrative) of the conceptual framework (10%) • Conclusion (10%) 	
Research project presentations (2x30%)	60	End of semester	Project presentation (15 min. long) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pragmatic competence (functionality of the content) (10%) • Linguistic competence (accuracy of language use, register) (10%) • Structure and cohesion (10%) 	
Author	Year	Title	Volume	Publishing House
Compulsory reading				
Fetzer, A. & Lauerbach, G.	2007	Political discourse in the media: Cross-cultural perspectives.	(pp. 1-32)	John Benjamins Publishing
Aslanidis, P. (2018).	2018	Measuring populist discourse with semantic text analysis: an application on grassroots populist mobilization.	<i>Quality & Quantity</i> , 52(3), 1241-1263.	
Chlup, R.	2023	Conspiracy Narratives as a Type of Social Myth.	<i>International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society</i> , 1-23.	Springer
Butler, J.	2000	Restaging the Universal: Hegemony and the Limits of Formalism.	(pp. 11-44)	
Habermas, J.	2006	Political communication in media society.	<i>Communication theory</i> , 16(4), 411-426.	
Nye Jr., J. S.	2019	The rise and fall of American hegemony from Wilson to Trump.	<i>International affairs</i> , 95(1), 63-80.	
Torfin, J. & Sorensen, E.	2019	Interactive Political Leadership in Theory and Practice.	<i>Administrative Sciences</i> (pp. 1-18)	
Mudde, C. & Kaltwasser, C.	2017	Populism: A very short introduction.		Oxford University Press
Teun, van Dijk.	1997	What is political discourse analysis.	<i>Belgian journal of linguistics</i> vol. 11 (1), pp. 11-52.	

Douglas et al.	2019	Understanding Conspiracy Theories.	Political Psychology (vol. 40)	
Tyler	2006	Psychological perspectives on legitimacy and legitimation.	Annual Review Psychol., vol. (57) (pp. 375-400)	
Klein, C. G., Clutton, P., & Dunn, A.	2019	Pathways to conspiracy.	PLoS ONE, vol. 14 (11)	
Macaulay, M. (ed.)	2019	Populist Discourse: International Perspectives.		Springer International Publishing
Wodak, R., KhosraviNik, M., & Mral, B. (Eds.).	2013	Right-wing populism in Europe: Politics and discourse.	A&C Black	
Kulin, J., Johansson Sevä, I., & Dunlap, R. E.	2021	Nationalist ideology, rightwing populism, and public views about climate change in Europe.	Environmental politics, 1-24.	
Additional reading				
Fairclough, N.	2001	Language and Power.		Pearson Education: London, New York
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.	<i>Populist discourse: International Perspectives</i>	Palgrave Macmillan, Cham
Arcimavičienė, L.	2020	Metaphor, identity and conflict in political discourse.	<i>Language of Conflict: Discourses of the Ukrainian Crisis</i>	Bloomsbury Academic

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