



IDENTIFYING DATA

Computer and Corpus Linguistics Applied to the English Language

Subject	Computer and Corpus Linguistics Applied to the English Language			
Code	V01M121V01202			
Study programme	(*)Máster Universitario en Estudios Ingleses Avanzados e as súas Aplicacións			
Descriptors	ECTS Credits	Choose	Year	Quadmester
	3	Optional	1st	2nd
Teaching language	English			
Department				
Coordinator	Yáñez Bouza, Nuria			
Lecturers	Tizón Couto, David Yáñez Bouza, Nuria			
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General description	<p>The aim of this course is to introduce the field of corpus linguistics and corpus-based methodology for the linguistic study of English. General issues about the design, collection and analysis of corpus material will be discussed. In practical sessions students will learn how to search and analyse text corpora using software tools. Students will develop the ability to describe and discuss the extent to which language usage varies and can be tracked with reference to genuine examples attested in corpora.</p> <p>With this course students will acquire skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the principles and methodology of English corpus linguistics; - the practical use of linguistic corpora and related software; - the discussion of specialized literature on corpus linguistics; - the presentation of research results. 			

Competencies

Code	
B1	
B3	
B4	--
B6	--
B7	--
B8	--
B9	--
C3	(*)Coñecemento dos principais recursos e ferramentas de investigación lingüística.
C11	(*)Capacidade de aplicar métodos de investigación cuantitativa e cualitativa, de executar varios procedementos de recolleita e análise de datos e de utilizar software específico para a investigación en lingüística inglesa.

Learning outcomes

Expected results from this subject	Training and Learning Results	
Students will gain the ability to design, collect and analyse corpus material, including the use of software tools to search, retrieve and sift data. Students will develop skills in interpreting information presented in the form of diagrams, tables and graphs; they will be able to apply and interpret tests of statistical significance.	B3 B9	C3 C11

Students will improve their skills in academic writing. On successful completion of the course students will have shown the ability to design a research project and develop a written argument of depth and complexity, using primary sources and critical literature, with a standard of scholarly presentation of the material produced appropriate to MA study.	B1 B4 B6 B7 B9	C11
Students will practice skills and strategies relevant to a successful completion of an MA degree programme, such as time management, group work, working to deadlines, self-directed study and research, etc. Students will be able to use appropriate notation and referencing conventions in linguistic research. They will also acquire skills in the use of library and database resources for independent research.	B7 B8 B9	C3
Students will become familiar with strategies for a good delivery of an oral presentation, including the presentation of handouts.	B7 B8	C3
Students will gain good background knowledge of the principles and methodology of English corpus linguistics. Students will develop the ability to describe and discuss the extent to which language usage varies and can be tracked with reference to genuine examples attested in corpora.		
Students will acquire intellectual skills in identifying adequate methods of data collection, and they will learn to carry out linguistic research in an appropriate and ethical way.		

Contents

Topic	
1. Introduction	Description vs. theory. Corpus vs. computational linguistics. Brief history of corpus linguistics.
2. What is a corpus?	Defining a corpus. Types of corpora. Main corpus resources for linguistic research.
3. Corpus design and compilation	Sampling matters: e.g. size, representativeness, collecting and computerizing data, storage and copyright.
4. Corpus annotation	Tagging, parsing and other types of annotation.
5. Data retrieval	Software tools. Precision and Recall. Concordances and queries. Keywords, word lists, frequency lists, etc.
6. Data analysis	Quantitative and qualitative analyses. Normalised frequencies and frequency distribution. Statistical significance.
7. Applications of corpora for the linguistic analysis of English	Selection of case studies on lexicon, grammar, discourse markers, register variation, historical change, sociolinguistics, etc.
8. Hands-on demonstrations with a selection of corpora	Hands-on demonstrations with a selection of corpora

Planning

	Class hours	Hours outside the classroom	Total hours
Introductory activities	2	3	5
Lecturing	8	0	8
Problem solving	3	38	41
Essay	1	20	21

*The information in the planning table is for guidance only and does not take into account the heterogeneity of the students.

Methodologies

	Description
Introductory activities	Activities aimed to take contact and gather information on the students' profiles, as well as to present the course.
Lecturing	Presentation by the instructors of the the contents, the theoretical bases and/or the guidelines of the course, the required exercises and projects.
Problem solving	Activities involving problems and/or exercises related to the contents.

Personalized attention

Methodologies	Description
Problem solving	Office hours and virtual attention through the elearning plataform or email.
Tests	Description
Essay	Office hours and virtual attention thourgh the elearning plataform or email.

Assessment

	Description	Qualification	Training and Learning Results
Lecturing	Active participation and involvement on the part of the students in the teaching sessions: attention, comments and questions to the thread of the explanations and resolution of activities.	15	B1 C3 B6 B7
Problem solving	Resolution of exercises, problems or small tasks that the students will carry out in class or in an autonomous way as homework.	55	B1 C3 B6 C11 B7 B8 B9
Essay	Final test with a practical and theoretical component. The student will deliver an oral presentation of a case study; this will be accompanied by a handout and a PPT or similar.	30	B1 C3 B3 C11 B4 B7 B9

Other comments on the Evaluation

(I) FIRST OPPORTUNITY Students will be assessed on the basis of three components, as indicated in the section above:

- 15% Active participation in the sessions. Please note that attendance is compulsory.
- 55% Exercises and programmed readings.
- 30% Oral presentation of a case study. Students will have to provide a hand-out and a PowerPoint presentation.

(II) SECOND OPPORTUNITY Students will have to repeat only those parts (exercises and case study) in which they did not reach a pass in the first opportunity. In the second opportunity the case study will be submitted as a written essay (between 2,000-3,000 words, excluding references).

(III) STUDENTS EXEMPT FROM CLASS ATTENDANCE Students will have to hand in all course exercises (60%) and submit an essay on a case study (between 2,000-3,000 words, excluding references) (40%)

NB. All exercises and tests will be done in English. Overall correctness in language and in the use of formal conventions is indispensable. Therefore, grammatical and orthographic mistakes will be penalised.

Sources of information

Basic Bibliography

McEnery, T., R. Xiao and Y. Tono, **Corpus-based language studies**, 1, Edinburgh University Press, 2006

Cantos, P., **Statistical methods in language and linguistic research**, 1, Equinox, 2011

Lindquist, H., **Corpus linguistics and the description of English**, 1, Edinburgh University Press, 2009

Hunston, Susan, **Corpora in applied linguistics**, 1, Cambridge University Press, 2002

Complementary Bibliography

Recommendations

Subjects that are recommended to be taken simultaneously

Variation and Change in the English Language/V01M121V01201

Subjects that it is recommended to have taken before

Linguistic Research Methods and Resources and their Application to the English Language/V01M121V01101

Other comments

The course will be delivered in English. Attendance is compulsory.

Students are expected to complete all assignments and readings suggested by the lecturer, and to come to the sessions prepared to discuss them. Students must visit the eLearning platform for the course regularly. Students are expected to check their university email on a regular basis: announcements and last-minute changes will be notified via email.

Academic misconduct (including cheating, plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion or fabrication of results) will not be tolerated and will be penalised with a zero mark or with a fail for the entire course, depending on the task involved. Pledging lack of awareness about plagiarism will not excuse students from their responsibility.