

**PLAN DOCENTE
PLAN EXPERIMENTAL ECTS
FACULTAD DE LETRAS
UCLM
CURSO 2009-2010**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Name of the course: Lexical Semantics II
Code: 65020
Nature of the subject: Optional
Grade: Fourth and Fifth Years of English Philology
Length: Second Term of the Academic Year
Department: "Filología Moderna"
Field of knowledge: English Philology
Professor: Javier E. Díaz Vera

Office room: 204
Extension: 3114
e-mail: Javierenrique.diaz@uclm.es

Number of credits and student work: This is a 4.5 ECTS course (1 lect credit corresponds to 25 hours of student/ work; 112.5 hours correspond to 4.5 credits). According to ECTS procedures, 45 hours are devoted to lectures and guided activities; the remaining hours, 67.5, compute as reading time, visits to the library or web sites, discussing groups, writing papers...or any other activity considered as autonomous student work.

Course timetable :Mon to Wed: 13:30-14:30
Mon from 17:00 to 19:00 seminars and small groups.

REQUIREMENTS:

This subject is aimed at students of English Philology. We strongly recommend the students to have previously passed "Lexical Semantics I".

MAIN TEACHING CONTENTS:

"Lexical Semantics II" is an optional course for undergraduate students who are interested on the Science of Meaning and its Representation. As a requirement, all the students should have already taken "Lexical Semantics I" to be familiar with the classical approaches to Lexical-Semantics. This course faces the Science of Meaning in three different and complementary views. We will start with some *logical matters* to provide the student with the fundamental vocabulary to understand semantic approaches. The second part of this course is devoted to *Cognitive Metaphor*, explaining its kinds, bases and scope. Finally, we shall take into consideration other types of semantic approaches where *culture, meaning and cognition* interact closely.

AIMS OF THE COURSE:

This is an undergraduate course for fourth- and fifth- year students already interested in Linguistics. We want the student to get more familiarized with semantic exercises (he/she

will have plenty of them along the course) and semantic readings. We would like the students to see the usefulness of semantic approaches for any kind of research. Finally, we hope to improve in the student the ability to read and express himself/herself in English on linguistic matters.

SYLLABUS

I Logical Matters: levels of meaning: sentence, utterance, proposition. Arguments and predicates. Logical relations between sentences: entailment, equivalence, contradiction. Logical classes: identity, inclusion, disjunction, mapping. Properties of logical relations: transitivity, symmetry, converseness.

I2. Types and dimensions of meaning.

I3. Compositionality

I4. Compulsory Reading.

Alan Cruse (2004) *Meaning and Language: An Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics*. Oxford University Press. Oxford (Chapters 1,2 and 3).

Evaluation: classroom exercises, and an exam.

II. The Cognitive Axis of the Lexicon: What is a metaphor. Kinds of metaphor. The basis of *metaphor*, *source* and *target* domains. The nature of metaphorical mappings. Metaphorical entailments. The scope of *metaphor*. *Metaphor* and *blends*

III. Compulsory Reading

Kövecses, Z (2002). *METAPHOR: A Practical Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (chapters. 1,2,3,6,8 y 9).

Evaluation: Classroom exercises and a practical a exam.

III. Semantics, culture and cognition : The student has to read several articles related to the topic of meaning and culture, where lexical universals are clue for the understanding important framework. These readings have to be discuss in front of the class.

COMPULSORY READING:

1. Some articles from the following books:

Wierzbicka, A, (2004) *Semantics, Culture and Cognition*. Oxford University Press.

Wierzbicha, A (1997) *Understanding Cultures Through their Key Words*. Oxford University Press. New York.

EVALUATION:

Oral presentation and debate on the articles read.

ECTS TIME/ WORKING DISTRIBUTION TABLE

(From Septiembre 21st to December 19th)

| Kind of activity | Classroom activities(A) | Guided activities(B) | Autonomous student/work (C) | Total hours (A+B+C) | ECTS credit percentage |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Class Attendance | 27h. | 18h | | 45h | 45% |
| Individual work: Compulsory reading and course exercises. A final paper. | | | 35h | | 30% |
| Group work. | | | 20h | | 20% |
| Bibliographical search | | | 10h. | | 15% |

EVALUATION CRITERIA

| ACTIVITY | CRITERIA | TESTING | Evaluation percentage |
|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| Classroom attendance and participation | Active participation, sharing debates, discussion groups, etc. | Teaching observation and control of attendance | 15% |
| Course learning contents | Good command of the theory and practice of the course | Exercises and Group work | 50% |
| 1 short paper | To be considered: contents structure, good command of English writing, originality and application to real life situations | An individual short paper | 25% |

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Other activities: oral presentation on different topics | Quality of the activities | Estimation of the activity | 10% |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|