

Subject card

Subject name and code	Cognitive basis of language, PG_00150281						
Field of study	English Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject			2026/2027	
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group			Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study	
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery			at the university	
Year of study	2		Language of instruction			English	
Semester of study	4		ECTS credits			3.0	
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form			exam	
Conducting unit	Division of Corpus Linguistics and Glottodidactics -> Institute of English and American Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Joanna Redzimska				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		0.0		43.0	73
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to provide students with knowledge about the features and functioning of natural language, which is based on a mental model of the world created using the human cognitive apparatus. Students should become aware of the most important differences between such a language and a language understood as a system based on formal logic, i.e. operating with symbols with an unchanging conventional meaning and governed by rules of an algorithmic nature.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[FAMU2_U07] Can lead a debate on linguistics and literature within the framework of English Philology, present and evaluate various opinions and positions, and discuss them in English and Polish.	Student is able to conduct a debate on topics related to cognitive linguistics, present and evaluate various opinions and positions and discuss them.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FAMU2_K01] Is ready to critically evaluate the extent of their knowledge and skills, in particular in the field of English-language linguistics and literature and English.	Student is ready to critically assess the scope of his knowledge and skills in the field of cognitive linguistics.	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FAMU2_W03] Knows and understands in depth advanced research methodologies and theories in the field of English linguistics.	Student knows and understands in-depth advanced research methodologies and theories in the field of cognitive linguistics.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FAMU2_W07] Knows and understands to an in-depth extent selected issues constituting advanced detailed knowledge in the field of linguistics, including, in particular, research into the English language.	Student knows and understands in-depth selected issues constituting advanced detailed knowledge in the field of cognitive linguistics.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FAMU2_U06] Can communicate in speech and writing in English and Polish with diverse audiences on specialized topics in the field of linguistics and literature, also using advanced specialized terminology.	Is able to communicate with diverse groups of recipients on specialist topics in the field of cognitive linguistics, using advanced specialist terminology.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FAMU2_W05] Knows and understands advanced terminology in the field of linguistics, in particular those used in English language studies.	Student knows and understands advanced terminology in the field of cognitive linguistics.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FAMU2_U01] Can innovatively perform analytical and interpretative tasks, formulate and solve complex and unusual problems, and set and test simple research hypotheses in the field of English linguistics and research into English literature, using the acquired subject knowledge and linguistic and literary methodological and theoretical approaches.	Is able to innovatively perform analytical and interpretative tasks, formulate and solve complex and unusual problems, and pose and test simple research hypotheses in the field of cognitive linguistics, using linguistic methodological and theoretical approaches.	[SU4] test/exam - oral or written
Subject contents	Theories of lexical meaning - conceptualism Iconicity of natural language (including onomatopoeia and phoneesthesia) Categories of the world and categories of mind and language: epistemological theories and their impact on the way of understanding the subject of linguistic research. Real categories and mental and nominal categories: the Aristotelian, scholastic, rationalistic and structuralist tradition and the model of mind and knowledge of the world developed by it. The objective category model as a basis for an overly simplified and incomplete picture of natural language and its functions. New anthropological and psychological discoveries regarding the influence of the human factor on cognition: a model of a natural category based on "family" similarity and the phenomena of prototypes and the basic level of categorization. Imaging the world through the mind: language as a means of recording and conventionalizing through its structures - selected conceptualizations. Signs representing imaging modalities; indexical (including deictic), iconic and arbitrary. Lexical and grammatical signs (constructions). A conceptual theory of linguistic meaning Cognitive strategies: understanding the world through metaphor and metonymy - evidence of language Mental spaces, conceptual blending. Lexicology from a cognitive perspective. Symbolic units: idealized cognitive models as concepts constituting the semantic content of lexemes. Interlexical relations: synonymy, antonymy, hypero- and hyponymy. The concept of cognitive domains as components of concepts (models) represented by lexemes. Polysemy in cognitive terms: prototypical meaning, elaborations, metaphorical extensions. Syntax: formal categories (parts of speech) and their conceptual motivation. Grammatical constructions as symbolic units; figure and background concept. Determining form through meaning (iconicity of structures reflecting ways of imaging) Context and its aspects (physical, linguistic, mental) as an inherent factor determining the meaning of statements in natural language. Context as a factor co-determining meaning: an implication in linguistic communication.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Choosing Natural Language Processing - NLP as the specialisation Additional requirements: The student receives credit based on obtaining a positive exam result: The written exam after completing the course includes cross-sectional questions regarding the discussed theory and practical tasks consisting in explaining selected linguistic issues based on the conceptual apparatus of cognitive linguistics. The examination test consists of several open questions.		

Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	oral or written test/ exam	50.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	Cruse, Alan, 2000. Meaning in Language. Oxford: Oxford University Press (fragments). Evans, Vyvyan and Melanie Green. 2006. Cognitive Linguistics. An Introduction. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press (fragments). Johnson, Mark. and George Lakoff. 1980. Metaphors We Live By. Chicago: Chicago University Press. Kovecses, Zoltan and Gunther Radden. 1998. Metonymy: Developing a cognitive linguistic view. Cognitive Linguistics 9-10: 37-77. Radden, Gunter i Rene Dirven. 2007. Cognitive English Grammar. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins (fragments). Tabakowska, Elzbieta (red.) 2001. Kognitywne podstawy języka i językoznawstwa. Krakow: Universitas (fragments).	
	Supplementary literature	not applicable	
	eResources addresses		
	Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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