# 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<br>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 | |
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| Standard reference categories of linguistic description | **Additional requirements (if any):**<br>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 |
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Generic competencies to be developed (as per the aims of the English Studies programme):

- 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.

Subject-specific competencies (as per the aims of the English Studies programme):

- 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.

| Learning outcomes of the course (module) | Study methods | Assessment methods |
|---|---|---|
| • Ability to identify and formulate research problems, collect sufficient data and apply appropriate research methods, alongside a foundational understanding of research writing conventions. | | |
| 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:**<br>- Test paper (40%).<br>- 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.<br><br>*Term paper writing: Mind-mapping.* | 2 | | 2 | | | | **4** | **8** | Chilton & Schäffner (2011, 303-331)<br><br>Wilson (2015, 775-794) |
| 2. The concept of ideology and its linguistic representation in political discourse. Van Dijk's ideological square.<br>*Term paper writing: Outlining.* | 2 | | 4 | | | | **6** | **8** | Van Dijk (1997) |

| № | | | | | | | | | References |
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| 3. | The concept of identity and its linguistic representation in political discourse. Gender double bind dilemma. *Term paper writing: Data sampling.* | 2 | | 4 | | | | 6 | 8 | Bamberg, De Fina & Schiffrin (2011, 177-199) Musolff (2016, 55-70; 2021, 15-33) |
| 4. | The concept of the body politic and its metaphorical representation in political discourse. The body politic tradition. *Term paper writing: Focusing on methodology.* | 2 | | 4 | | | | 6 | 8 | |
| 5. | The concept of violence and its linguistic representation in political discourse. Violence categories. *Term paper writing: Coding procedure.* | 2 | | 4 | | | | 6 | 8 | Maynard (2019) |
| 6. | The concept of populism and its linguistic representation in political discourse. Binary oppositions and their use. *Term paper writing: Analysing social meanings.* | 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. *Term paper writing: Modelling the findings.* | 2 | | 4 | | | | 6 | 8 | Nye (2008, 1-27) |
| 8. | Overview of the key ideas and methods of political discourse analysis. *Term paper writing: Construction of a conclusion, referencing.* | | | 2 | | | | 2 | 8 | |
| 9. | Final test (from theory to practice). | | | 1 | | | | 1 | 8 | |
| 10. | Term paper writing: *Reviewing the paper and preparing for submission.* Reflection session. | | | 3 | | | | 3 | 15 | |
| | **Total** | 16 | | 32 | | | | 48 | 87 | |

| Attendance requirements |
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| 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 |
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| 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: <br> • 10 (excellent). Excellent, exceptional knowledge and abilities. 95-100% of questions answered correctly. <br> • 9 (very good). Very good knowledge and abilities. 85-94 % of questions answered correctly. <br> • 8 (good). Knowledge and abilities are above average. 75-84 % of questions answered correctly. <br> • 7 (average). Average knowledge and abilities; there are a few not essential mistakes. 65-74 % of questions answered correctly. <br> • 6 (satisfactory). Knowledge and abilities are below average; there are mistakes. 55-64 % of questions answered correctly. <br> • 5 (weak). Knowledge and abilities meet the minimum requirements. 51-54 % of questions answered correctly. |

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| | | | • 4 (insufficient). Knowledge and abilities do not meet the minimum requirements. 41-50% of questions answered correctly<br>• 3, 2, 1. Minimum requirements are not met. |
| Term paper | 60% | Week 16 | **Term paper requirements:**<br><br>Word amount: 4,000-5,000. Minimum number of references: 10.<br><br>The formal structure of the paper 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.<br><br>Ten-point assessment scale: a) pragmatic competence + structure (60%)<br>llinguistic 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 *The handbook of discourse analysis* (2nd 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<br><br>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. |

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| Breeze, R. | 2019 | Representing the People: Claiming the Heartland in Scottish Election Manifestos. In *Populist discourse.* | | Palgrave Macmillan. |
| Bamberg, M., De Fina, A., Schiffrin, D. | 2011 | Discourse and Identity Construction. In *Handbook of Identity Theory and Research.* | | 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 *Populist discourse* (pp.89-123). | | Palgrave Macmillan. |
| Arcimavičienė, L. | 2020 | The polarity of collective identity in diplomatic discourse: legitimacy by metaphor. In *Euro-American relations in the age of globalization: risks and opportunities*, 73-97. | | University of Turin. |

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