Université catholique de Louvain

LCOMU2270 2014-2015

COGNITIVE SEMIOLOGY

5.0 credits

30.0 h

2q

Teacher(s) :	Fastrez Pierre ;
Language :	Français
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes :	The course aims at presenting the main conceptual frameworks that federate research in cognitive science (cognitivism, connexionism, experientialism) and at showing their usefulness for the study of mediated communication. The main themes to be discussed are : - The respective epistemologies of each of these paradigms (objectivism, constructivism); - The central concepts of cognitive semantics and cognitive linguistics, which delineate the current orientations in cognitive semiotics, as well as their consequences on the study of the relationship between representational systems and cognitive activity (cf. "contents"). The course also aims at showcasing the usefulness of the semio-cognitive approach to the design of media messages and communicational artifacts.
Aims :	By the end of the course, students must have become: - knowledgeable on the topics of the main theoretical paradigms that have structured cognitive science, and of the main concepts
	they yielded, which underlie the semio-cognitive analysis of communication situations. - able to apply these concepts to analyze a given mediated communication situation or media message, and to formulate hypotheses on the relationship between its techno-semiotic properties and the cognitive activity of its users. The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".
Content :	 The course contains two parts: 3. Cognitive Science Paradigms and Views of Cognition. This part introduces students to cognitivism-computationalism, connexionism and experientialism, situates them in the historical perspective of their advent, and develops the different views of cognition they yielded: cognition as information processing, as computation, as parallel distributed processing, as propagation of representational states, as embodied experience 4. Communication and Cognition: Conceptual Tools. This part presents a set of concepts that underlie the semio-cognitive analysis of communication settings: d. the notion of conceptual projection in the study of metaphor, analogy and conceptual integration; e. the notion of cognitive system in the context of distributed cognition; f. the notions of schema and schematicity and their entailments on the issues of representation and knowledge. Methods The course relies mainly on lectures, complemented by readings and a personal assignment that focuses on the application of concepts explained in class.
Other infos :	Evaluation Evaluation includes a theoretical part as well as a part dedicated to the application of concepts explained in class to a communication situation. Material Lecture notes, course reader.
Cycle and year of study :	Master [120] in Information and Communication Master [120] in Information and Communication Master [60] in Information and Communication Master [120] in Linguistics
Faculty or entity in charge:	СОМИ