UCLouvain

lgerm2871

2022

Research seminar in English linguistics: Learner Corpus Research

5.00 credits	15.0 h	Q2
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This biannual learning is being organized in 2022-2023

Teacher(s)	Paquot Magali ;				
Language :	English				
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve				
Prerequisites	It is strongly recommended that you have completed LGERM2829 English Linguistics: Corpus Linguistics or LCLIG2250 Méthodologie de l'analyse de corpus en linguistique (or any equivalent introductory course in corpus linguistics).				
Main themes	Learner corpora are electronic collections of language data produced by second or foreign language learners. They are used to investigate topics in second language acquisition (SLA) research and linguistic theory in general, inform foreign language teaching, develop learner-corpus-informed tools (e.g. courseware, proficiency tests, dictionaries, and automatic spell- and grammar-checkers), or conduct natural language processing (NLP) tasks. The aim of this research seminar is to introduce the field of learner corpus research via the completion of an empirical research project. We will focus on one particular topic (e.g. learners' use of phraseology, linguistic complexity, crosslinguistic influence) and go through each of the necessary steps to conduct a research project				
	(literature review, data selection, quantitative and qualitative analyses of the data, discussion and conclusion). The course will provide an opportunity for students to develop their knowledge and skills for carrying out a learner corpus research project. Depending on the selected topic, special attention will be paid to aspects of learner corpus design (e.g. collection, transcription), data annotation (e.g. coding schemes, manual and automatic annotation, annotation reliability), and/or the different types of methodologies used to analyse learner corpora (comparisons with reference corpora, error analysis, quantitative approaches, etc.).				
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :				
	demonstrate knowledge and understanding of research into English as a Foreign Language based on learner corpora;				
	2 conduct a learner corpus research project (both as a group project in class and individually);				
	3 identify and critically examine the relevant scientific literature;				
	identify research gaps, formulate research questions and hypotheses on the basis of the current state of the art;				
	5 annotate and analyse a learner corpus with the help of corpus linguistic tools and techniques;				
	6 situate the results against the current state of the art;				
	work in team (collaborate, share the work, discuss, prepare guidelines, synthesize, report orally on each step of the research process, use tools for collaborative work and citation/reference management);				
	8 write a research paper that meets the requirements in terms of content and structure.				

Evaluation methods	5-credit course				
	The research seminar is evaluated on the basis of the following activities:				
	- Continuous assessment (exercices, group project, etc.) (30%)				
	- A term paper on a topic related to the course content (70%). Students whose mark for the term paper is below 10/20 automatically fail for the course.				
	Students who have more than two unjustified absences will not be allowed to register for the exam.				
	10-credit course				
	The research seminar is evaluated on the basis of the following activities:				
	1. Group project on a topic related to the course content. This group project includes continuous assessment activities (exercices, student presentations, etc.) (50%)				
	2. Individual term paper on a topic related to the course content (50 %). Students whose mark for the term paper is below 10/20 automatically fail for the course.				
	Students who have more than two unjustified absences or who have not taken part in the group project will not be allowed to register for the exam. In case of resit, the course evaluation will be based on a term paper only.				
Teaching methods	Various: lectures, flipped classroom, discussions, students' presentations, group projects, hands-on sessions				
Content	In 2022-23, the seminar will focus more particularly on the use of learner corpora in the fields of second language acquisition and language assessment.				
	Keywords: linguistic complexity, phraseology, proficiency, CEFR				
Inline resources	https://moodleucl.uclouvain.be/course/view.php?id=117				
Bibliography	 Granger, S., Meunier, F. & G. Gilquin (2015) The Cambridge Handbook of Learner Corpus Research. Cambridge Cambridge University Press. Tracy-Ventura, N. & M. Paquot (2021) The Routledge Handbook of Second Language Acquisition and Corpora Routledge. 				
Faculty or entity in	ELAL				
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Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)							
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes			
Master [120] in Translation	TRAD2M	5		Q			
Master [120] in Linguistics	LING2M	10					
Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures : German, Dutch and English	GERM2M	5					
Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures : General	ROGE2M	5		Q			