UCLouvain

Irom1222

2023

Linguistics: Historical approach to French in Romance languages

5.00 credits	45.0 h + 7.5 h	Q2
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Teacher(s)	Hambye Philippe ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Prerequisites	LFIAL1530, LROM1221
Main themes	This course aims to describe the main linguistic changes that have marked the development of French from the Latin period to the present day, as well as to understand the mechanisms that underlie these changes and the factors of various kinds that influence them. This development will be juxtaposed with those elements of the historical context that can illuminate the changes that have appeared in French usage. The situation of French in the different periods studied will be compared with that of other Romance languages, in particular with Spanish and Italian, at the level of formal properties and sociolinguistic characteristics (status, diffusion, standardisation, vitality, etc.).
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :
J	By the end of the course students will be able to: 'reflect on the main mechanisms of the development of French and on linguistic change in general; 'analyse old forms of French and outline their development; 'have a good knowledge of the history and of the sociolinguistic and political situation of Romance languages in general and French in particular; 'understand and use the concepts and methods of historical linguistics; 'understand the genetic and typological connections between Romance languages.
Evaluation methods	For the fist exam session (June), the course assessment is based, for one part, on a written examination consisting of two parts: reference to notes is not allowed in the first but is allowed in the second. This examination will account for 15 marks of the final mark (/20). In the second part, an preliminary exam, accounting for 3 marks, will be organized around course week 7. Finally, students will be required to carry out a research assignment in groups in the course of the semester, and this will account for 2 marks out of 20. In the september exam session, the whole mark will be based upon the written exam.
Content	The course will begin with a general introduction on the mechanisms of linguistic development, the links between linguistic variation and change, and the methods of historical linguistics. We will then examine the main phonological changes that affected the passage from Latin to Modern French, by systematically locating them in their historical context. This chronological examination will be performed in parallel with a description of sociolinguistic change in French, which will itself be compared to that of other Romance languages. This chronological journey will be complemented throughout the course by the analysis of specific cases that make it possible to illustrate the phenomena studied and to identify the main phonological and lexical characteristics of French in relation to other Romance languages. The exercises linked to the course aim at systematising the analytical procedures presented in the course and at giving students practice in applying them.
Bibliography	Voir document disponible sur le site Moodle.
Faculty or entity in charge	ELAL

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes		
Minor in French Studies	MINFRAN	5		٩		
Bachelor in Ancient and Modern Languages and Literatures	LAFR1BA	5		٩		
Minor in Linguistics	MINLING	5		٩		
Bachelor in French and Romance Languages and Literatures : General	ROM1BA	5		٩		
Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literatures : General	ROGE1BA	5		٩		