UAB
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

French Semantics and Pragmatics

Code: 106629
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
English and French Studies	OT	0
English and French Studies	OT	3
English and French Studies	OT	4

Contact

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Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the of this document.

Prerequisites

There are not.

Objectives and Contextualisation

In this topic, included in French Linguistics, the goal is to give the student the ressources necessary to carry out a semantic and pragmatic analysis of present-day documents in French in their oral dimension as well in their written dimension.

Competences

English and French Studies
- Analyse the main phonetic, phonological, morphological, syntactic, lexical, semantic and pragmatic properties of the English and French languages, their evolution throughout history and their current structures.
- Apply the concepts, resources and methods acquired to the different fields of applied English and French linguistics, in a global, multilingual, social context of language learning.
- Carry out linguistic analyses of the English and French languages using specific competences methodologies and terminology.
- Identify the foundations of human language and the principles, methods and results of structural analysis of languages.
- Students have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (normally within their study area) to issue judgments that include reflection on important issues of social, scientific or ethical.
- Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.
- Take account of social, economic and environmental impacts when operating within one's own area of knowledge.

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- Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.
- Use digital tools and specific documentary sources to gather and organise information.
- Use spoken English and French correctly for academic and professional purposes related to the study of linguistics, history, culture and literature.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse the main phonetic, phonological, morphological, syntactic, lexical, semantic and pragmatic properties of French in the current language.
2. Autonomously search, select and process information both from structured sources (databases, bibliographies, specialized magazines) and from across the network.
3. Be familiar with the resources available for the analysis of French.
4. Compare the expression of grammatical and natural gender in distinct languages.
5. Distinguish grammatical gender from natural gender.
6. Distinguish the distinct levels of linguistic analysis and establish relationships between them.
7. Establish typological generalizations.
8. Generate hypotheses and arguments to explain a given linguistic phenomenon.
9. Identify and explain the terminology specific to each of the linguistic levels.
10. Identify distinct theoretical options or ways of approaching the same linguistic phenomena from alternative theoretical frameworks.
11. Identify the impact of social and economic organisation on linguistic practices in French.
12. Identify the pragmatic factors that condition the use of different linguistic and argumentative structures.
13. Identifying different theoretical options or ways of dealing with the same problem from alternative theoretical frameworks.
14. In a responsible and reasoned way, apply the appropriate computer techniques for the consultation and management of specific documentary sources.
15. Make oral and written presentations of an academic and/or professional nature on French language, linguistics, culture or literature with a high degree of linguistic accuracy and terminological precision in French.
16. Produce works in which the fundamental digital and bibliographic tools for the field of study are applied.
17. Solve complex linguistic analysis at any level and with the appropriate tools.
18. Summarising acquired knowledge about the origin and transformations experienced in its several fields of study.
19. Use the appropriate and specific terminology of the literary studies.

Content

Introduction : the semantic and pragmatic components of language

I Semantics 1. Lexical semantics words, morphemes, morphological analysis / polysemy theories of lexical meaning: the semes analysis the evolution of words meaning : metaphore and metonymy conotation, levels of language 2. Connotation, levels of language review of lexical semantic relationships: antonymy Polysemy of derivational affixes 2. Grammatical semantics word /syntagms order; verbal government logical and temporal relationships

II Pragmatics Speech activity deixis Modalities Speech acts implicits:presupposition Conversational laws

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes

Type: Directed		
Master class with TIC and collective discussion; Analysis of lexical, semantic and pragmatic phenomena	45	1.8
Master classes, exercises, collective discussions, exams	80	3.2
Type: Supervised		
Oral presentation	20	0.8

Master class with TIC and collective discussion Analysis of lexical, semantic and pragmatic phenomena Individual and collective exercises Autonomous activities: exercises, exam preparation, readings, writings, Internet search Interaction in class (teacher-student, student-student) Oral and/or written exams Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

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Assessment

Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exam 1	25%	1.5	0.06	1, 2, 6, 8, 12, 9, 10, 13, 17, 18, 19
Exam 2	25%	1.5	0.06	1, 14, 6, 8, 12, 9, 10, 13, 17, 19
Exam 3	25%	1.5	0.06	1, 14, 6, 8, 12, 9, 10, 13, 17, 18, 19
Oral presentation	25%	0.5	0.02	1, 14, 2, 4, 3, 5, 6, 16, 7, 15, 8, 12, 9, 11, 10, 13, 17, 18, 19

Assessment will be continuous. It will include all the work done during the term, the exams as well the oral presentations done during all the term. Mid-term exams will be corrected in class and students will be able to ask any doubt about assessment. In the final exam, a date of revision will be fixed. 3- If a student has not done any of the mid-term exams, (s)he will not be assessed.- Remedial exam will only be avalaible to students who, having done the continuous assessment, have failed. But they will have not right to remedial exam if their average is inferior to 3,5 /10 or if they have not done at least 2/3 of the required tasks. Oral presentations not done will not be remediated (in this case the assessment will be 0/10) or the activities done in course. If the student has not got an average of pass, he will have to do a final exam including all the topics. Plagiarism: Total or partial plagiarism of any exercise will be automatically failed (0) of the plagiarised exercise. TO PLAGIARISE is copying from non identified sources from a text, even if it is one single phrase, which is appropriated by someone who is not the real author (it includes copying phrases or Internet passages and adding them without modification to the text which is presented as one's own). It is a serious offense. Particular cases: Students whose mother tongue is French will have to achieve the same assessment conditions than the rest of students. Students are the exclusive responsible of monitoring formative and assessment activities. In the event that tests or exams cannot be taken onsite, they will be adapted to an online format made available through the UAB's virtual tools (original weighting will be maintained). Homework, activities and class participation will be carried out through forums, wikis and/or discussion on Teams, etc. Lecturers will ensure that students are able to access these virtual tools, or will offer them feasible alternatives.

This subject entirely prohibits the use of AI technologies in all of its activities. Any submitted work that contains content generated using AI will be considered academic dishonesty; the corresponding grade will be awarded a zero, without the possibility of reassessment. In cases of greater infringement, more serious action may be taken.

UNIQUE ASSESSMENT

A written exam (70%)

An oral exam (30%)

Bibliography

BAYLON, Christian. et MIGNOT Xavier. (1995). Sémantique du langage , collection « Fac linguistique ». Paris :Nathan.

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Tome I ,Phonologie, morphologielexicologie ; tome II Phonologie, morphologielexicologieSyntaxe

GARRIC Nathalie et CALAS Frédérice. (2007). Introduction à la pragmatique . Paris : Hachette

GROSS Gaston. (1996). Paris :Les expressions figées en français. Noms composés et autres locutions,Paris, Ophrys.

HUOT, Hélène. (2005). collection « Sens etProblèmes de sémantique. La polysémie en questions, , 2e éd., collection « Cursus ».La morphologie. Forme et sens des mots du français Paris : Armand Colin.

LEHMANN Alise et MARTIN-BERTHET Françoise. (2008). Introduction à la lexicologie. Sémantique et morphologie , collection « Lettres sup ». Paris : Armand-Colin.

KERBRAT-ORECCHIONI, Catherine. (1996). La conversation . Paris : Seuil.

MORTUREUX, Marie Françoise. (2004). La lexicologie entre langue et discours, collection « Campus ». Paris :La lexicologie entre langue et discours, Armand-Colin.

POLGUÈRE, Alain (2008). Lexicologie et sémantique lexicale. Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal.

POTTIER, Bernard. (1974). Linguistique générale. Théorie et description. Paris : Klincksieck.

REBOUL, Anne et MOESCHLER Jacques (1998). La pragmatique aujourd'hui , collection « Points Essais », n°La pragmatique aujourd'hui 371. Paris : Éditions du Seuil.

SARFATI Georges Elia et PAVEAU Marie-Anne (2014). Les grandes théories linguistiques. De la grammaire comparée à la pragmatique, collection U. Paris : Armand Colin.

TESNIÈRE, Lucien (1982). Éléments de syntaxe structurale . Paris : Klincksieck.

Grammaires :

CHARAUDEAU, Patrick (1992). Grammaire du sens et de l'expression . Paris : Hachette.

GREVISSE, Maurice et GOOSSE André (1989). Nouvelle grammaire française. Louvain : Duculot.

LE GOFFIC, Pierre (1992). Grammaire de la phrase française, Paris : Hachette.

RIEGEL, Martin et alii (1998). Grammaire méthodique du français. Paris : P.U.F. . Paris : P.U.F

Software

There are not

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this link. To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(PAUL) Classroom practices	1	French	second semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	French	second semester	morning-mixed