Form 2B

City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course
offered by Department of Linguistics and Translation
with effect from Semester A in 2015 / 2016

Part I

Course Title: Computational Lexicography

Course Code: LT5457

Course Duration: One semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P5

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites: Nil

Precursors: Nil

Equivalent Courses: Nil

Exclusive Courses: Nil

Part II

Course Aims

This course aims to introduce students to the theoretical and practical issues in the compilation of conventional dictionaries and computational lexicons, with particular focus on the use of computers and corpora in contemporary practice. Students will acquire the techniques in discovering word usages and distinguishing word senses from corpus data as an essential step in composing a word entry in a dictionary. The construction of lexical resources especially semantic lexicons for machine use and methods for automatic lexical acquisition will also be discussed.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Critically compare the design and content of various kinds of printed/electronic dictionaries and lexical resources.	20%
2.	Competently describe and discuss the role of computers and corpora in contemporary dictionary making for human and/or machine use.	30%
3.	Accurately analyse the different aspects of word meaning from corpus data.	30%
4.	Innovatively plan a small-scale lexicographic project and implement it by applying the techniques discussed in class.	20%

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	TLAs	Hours/week (if applicable)
1, 2, 3, 4	Lectures to explain the theoretical and practical issues in dictionary making, and the use of computers and corpora in lexicography and automatic lexical acquisition.	
1, 2	Teacher-facilitated class/group discussions on assigned readings.	
3, 4	Hands-on exercises on analysing corpus data for definition writing and example selection, and using computational tools to extract lexical information from large corpora.	

Assessment Tasks/Activities

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
1, 2, 3, 4	Class discussions and practical exercises	30%	
1, 2, 3	Quiz to assess students' mastery of concepts and techniques covered in class	20%	
4	Written report and class presentation for a small-scale group project	50%	

Grading of Student Achievement:

Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees.

Letter Grade	Grading criteria in relation to CILOs
A+ A A-	Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base. 1. Excellent knowledge of theoretical and practical issues in computational lexicography. 2. Excellent application of corpus processing and analysis techniques in lexicography. 3. Very active participation.
B+ B B-	Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature. 1. Good knowledge of theoretical and practical issues in computational lexicography. 2. Good application of corpus processing and analysis techniques in lexicography. 3. Active participation.
C+ C C-	Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material. 1. Adequate knowledge of theoretical and practical issues in computational lexicography. 2. Fair application of corpus processing and analysis techniques in lexicography. 3. Adequate participation.

D	Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course. 1. Basic familiarity with the subject matter. 2. Marginal ability to apply corpus processing and analysis techniques in lexicography. 3. Marginal participation.
F	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited or irrelevant use of literature.

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

Dictionary types: monolingual/bilingual printed/electronic dictionaries, thesauri, computational lexicons, machine-readable vs machine-usable dictionaries
Word entries: lexical information, word meaning, polysemy and sense distinction, usages and examples, illustrations, semantic relations, multi-word expressions, idiomaticity, terminology
Lexicographic practice: corpus-based lexicography, monolingual and parallel corpora, web as corpus, dictionary project, automatic lexical acquisition, dictionary access, cognitive aspects

Recommended Reading
Text(s)

Boguraev, B. and Briscoe, T. (Eds.) (1989) *Computational Lexicography for Natural Language Processing*. London: Longman.
Halliday, M.A.K., Teubert, W., Yallop, C. and Čermáková, A. (2004) *Lexicology and Corpus Linguistics: An Introduction*. London and New York: Continuum.
Jackson, H. (2002) *Lexicography: An Introduction*. London and New York: Routledge.
Jackson, H. and Ze Amvela, E. (2000) *Words, Meaning and Vocabulary: An Introduction to Modern English Lexicology*. London and New York: Continuum.
Landau, S.I. (2001) *Dictionaries: The Art and Craft of Lexicography*. Cambridge University Press.
Ooi, V.B.Y. (1998) *Computer Corpus Lexicography*. Edinburgh University Press.
Sinclair, J. (Ed.) (1987) *Looking Up: An Account of the COBUILD Project in Lexical Computing*. London and Glasgow: Collins ELT.
李明、周敬華 (2001)《雙語詞典的編纂》， 上海：上海外語教育出版社。
章宜華 (2002) 《語義學與詞典釋義》， 上海：上海辭書出版社。

Online Resources

ACL Anthology	http://aclweb.org/anthology-new
Sketch Engine	http://www.sketchengine.co.uk/
WordNet	http://wordnet.princeton.edu