

LT5456: TEXT LINGUISTICS

Effective Term

Semester B 2024/25

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Text Linguistics

Subject Code

LT - Linguistics and Translation

Course Number

5456

Academic Unit

Linguistics and Translation (LT)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to examine how textual constituents are related and organized in speech and writing. Moreover the interdependence of the communicative, pragmatic and semiotic dimensions of context will be considered.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Identify the criteria for identifying the genres of a text. Recognize and describe textual patterns beyond the sentence.		x	x	x
2	Analyze texts from different perspectives including experiential construal, enacting relationships and message development.		x	x	x
3	Discover and formulate effective logical and rhetorical strategies for describing and explaining the hierarchical structure of language in discourse level.		x	x	x
4	Apply the rhetorical structure theory to identify the essential elements of a text and to show the inter-relations in a text.		x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	1	Basic principles and techniques for conducting text analysis. The principles and techniques are drawn primarily from Systemic Functional Grammar and Rhetorical Structure Theory, both of which follow a functional-semantic approach.	1, 2, 3, 4	
2	2	Analysis along functional-semantic lines focuses on addressing the question of how and why a text makes sense.	2, 3	

3	3	Analyses based on example texts are used to illustrate the theory and methodology of both SFG and RST, both of which offer a unique perspective on the text as the object of study.	3, 4	
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Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs		CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Tutorial Exercise and Discussion 1. Identifying essential linguistic elements in different linguistic strata and; 2. Discourse analysis based on SFG and RST.	1, 2, 3, 4	10	
2	Homework Assignments 1. Text Analysis on identifying the linguistic criteria specific to the genres of a text. 2. Discourse Analysis applying the theory and methodology of both SFG and RST to describe and explain the hierarchical structure of a text.	1, 2, 3, 4	40	

Continuous Assessment (%)

50

Examination (%)

50

Examination Duration (Hours)

2

Additional Information for ATs

Exam: Mastery of concepts and techniques, ability to analyze and explain the functional-semantic features of a text. Questions will be set to test students' understanding of key concepts, ability to elaborate them in different linguistic topics. Questions will also be set to test students' ability of applying the introduced methodology to identify the essential elements and formulate the hierarchical structure of a text. (CILO No.1-4)

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

1 (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Tutorial Exercise and Discussion

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Good ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Some ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Marginal

(D) Barely able to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Failure

(F) No apparent ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Assessment Task

2 (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Homework assignments

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Good

(B+, B, B-) Good ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Some ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Marginal

(D) Barely able to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Failure

(F) No apparent ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Assessment Task

3 (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Examination

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent knowledge of both analytical methodology and theoretical concepts in text linguistics

Good

(B+, B, B-) Above average knowledge of both analytical methodology and theoretical concepts in text linguistics

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Some knowledge of both analytical methodology and theoretical concepts in text linguistics

Marginal

(D) Barely aware of both analytical methodology and theoretical concepts in text linguistics

Failure

(F) Apparently unaware of both analytical methodology and theoretical concepts in text linguistics

Assessment Task

1 (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Tutorial Exercise and Discussion

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Good

(B+, B) Good ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Some ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Failure

(F) No apparent ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Assessment Task

2 (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Homework assignments

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Good

(B+, B) Good ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Some ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Failure

(F) No apparent ability to recognize and describe those linguistic factors contributing to the texture and architecture of texts.

Assessment Task

3 (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

Examination

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Excellent knowledge of both analytical methodology and theoretical concepts in text linguistics

Good

(B+, B) Above average knowledge of both analytical methodology and theoretical concepts in text linguistics

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Some knowledge of both analytical methodology and theoretical concepts in text linguistics

Failure

(F) Apparently unaware of both analytical methodology and theoretical concepts in text linguistics

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

implicature, presupposition, speech acts, deixis, relevance theory Textual patterns, cohesion, coherence, intentionality, acceptability, situationality, intertextuality, informativeness, Ideational Meaning, transitivity analysis, Interpersonal Meaning, mood-residue structure, Textual Meaning, theme, rheme and information structure, Rhetorical Structure Theory, relations among clauses. Poetry decoding

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Halliday, M.A.K. and Webster, J. J. (2014). Text Linguistics: The How and Why of Meaning. London: Equinox.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Halliday, MAK. 2004. An Introduction to Functional Grammar. London: Arnold.
2	Halliday, M.A.K. & Jonathan Webster. 2003. Linguistic Studies of Text and Discourse. Collected Works of MAK Halliday, Vol. 2. Edited by Jonathan Webster. Continuum.
3	Mann, William C. and Sandra A. Thompson, 1986. Rhetorical Structure Theory: description and construction of text structures, Information Sciences Institute, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, ISI/RS-86-174, 1-15.