Introduction to Cognitive Linguistics (optional course)

5 credits

Week	Date	Course content	Texts, assignments
W 1	Sept 2	General requirements. Overall arrangement of the course. Deadlines, assessment.	
W 2	Sept 9	CL Lecture 1. Introduction. Beginning of CL, the key people, ideas, principles. Objectivist vs. subjectivist philosophical framework. Experientialism.	Question for discussion. In what ways CL is different from other linguistic trends? Consult any available sources. Also find out the meaning of the word *cognitive.*
W 3	Sept 16	CL Workshop 1. The cognitive basis of language: language and thought. Semiotic principles	Task sheet 1. Reading: Croft & Cruse, 1-4; Evans, Bergen & Zinken, 2-5; Dirven & Verspoor, 1-13.
W 4	Sept 23	CL Lecture 2. Categorization. Traditional and cognitive approach to categorization. Vertical and horizontal dimension. Prototype theory and its implications for language and human cognition. Family resemblance. Encyclopaedic knowledge	Questions for discussion. 1) Give your understanding of the following notions: categorization, classification, taxonomy. Identify similarities and differences. 2) Give your understanding of cotext, context, situation and gestalt
W 5	Sept 30	CL Workshop 2. CATEGORISATION. conceptual categories. Categorisation of colour. Prototype theory. Linguistic categorization	Task sheet 2. Reading: Ungerer and Schmid, 1 (7) - 20 (23).
W 6	Oct 7	CL Workshop 3. CATEGORISATION. Vertical and horizontal dimensions. Family resemblance principle. The role of gestalt and context. Encyclopaedic knowledge. Frames.	Task sheet 3. Reading: Ungerer & Schmid, 20-41 (or 24-43); (43 – 55 (or 45 -58); Taylor, 65-74; 81-98. (optional).
W 7	Oct 14	CL Lecture 3. Polysemy and monosemy. Homonymy. Radial categories. CL approach.	**HA1 due!** Question for discussion. Give your understanding of polysemy and homonymy.
W 8	Oct 21	CL Workshop 4. Polysemy and monosemy. Homonymy. Polysemy across languages. Vagueness and ambiguity. Revision for the mid-term	Task sheet 4. Reading: Taylor, 99-121
W 9	Oct 28	**MID-TERM TEST**	
W 10	Nov 4	CL Lecture 4. Metonymy and metaphor. Conceptual metaphor theory. Source and target domains. Cross-cultural features	Question for discussion. Give your understanding of metonymy and metaphor.
W 11	Nov 11	CL Workshop 5. Metonymy and Metaphor. Conceptual metaphor theory. Language-universal and language-specific features of conceptual metaphor	Task sheet 5. Reading: Kovecses, 3-25; Lakoff and Johnson, 10-13; 56-60.
W 12	Nov 18	CL Lecture 5. Spatial relations. Figure and ground. Frames of reference: relative, absolute, intrinsic.	**HA2 due!** Question for discussion. Why do we say 'round the corner' in EN but *už kampo* 'behind the corner' in LT?
W 13	Nov 25	CL Workshop 6. Space and spatial relations. Figure and Ground. Cross-linguistic features of space conceptualization	Task sheet 6. Reading: Ungerer and Schmid, (new ed.) 163-168; 172 - 174; Majid et al., 108-114; Talmy, 177-245 (recommended).
W 14	Dec 2	CL Lecture 6. Linguistic determinism and linguistic relativity. Evidence from space, gender and writing systems	Question for discussion. Give your understanding of Sapir-Whorf hypothesis of linguistic determinism
W 15	Dec 9	CL Workshop 7. Linguistic relativity and its manifestation in expressing space, time, gender and number. Writing systems	Task sheet 7. Reading: Boroditsky, 917–921; Boroditsky et al., 61-79; Chan & Bergen.
W 16	Dec 16	Summing up. Revision for the final test. Feedback on the course	
Examination session		**FINAL TEST**; **11 a.m. Dec 21, 2015**	

The final mark is calculated on the basis of the following:
1. Attendance and in-class participation, max 5 points
2. Home assignment 1 (HA1): due week 7, October 14, max 15 points
3. Mid-term test: due week 9, October 28, max 25 points
4. HA2: due week 12, November 18, max 15 points
5. Final test, December 21, max 40 points

TOTAL: 100 points