

## Syllabus of the course “DISCOURSE ANALYSIS”

*Approved by the Academic council of the Education programme  
‘Foreign Languages and Intercultural Communication’  
Protocol No. 6 from 26. 08. 2019*

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Syllabus designer     | Olga Vishnyakova       |
| Credits               |                        |
| Classroom hours       | 50+28= 78              |
| Self-study hours      |                        |
| Year                  | 4                      |
| Course implementation | Without online courses |

### I. COURSE AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES. PREREQUISITES

The aim and purpose of the course “**DISCOURSE ANALYSIS**” is to inform students on the basis of research view of the essence and analysis of discourse as one of the most important issues in terms of contemporary linguistic and interdisciplinary studies.

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to arrive at the following learning outcomes:

- awareness of fundamental concepts and terms of discourse theory and practical application of the knowledge;
- awareness of the history and present-day situation in discourse studies in general and discourse analysis as the reliable approach to the concept and essence of discourse;
- awareness of the linguistic and interdisciplinary research advances in the field of discourse analysis;
- ability to detect specific features of communication skills application on the basis of the theoretical knowledge acquired.

Prerequisites

Students are expected to have completed the following courses: Practical English Course (grammar; phonetics; vocabulary; language skills); Introduction to Linguistics; Language and Linguistics; Theoretical Phonetics.

## II. COURSE INPUT

Topic 1. The notion of discourse in linguistics and other fields of knowledge. Theoretical approaches to discourse as an interdisciplinary phenomenon (general characteristics). Discourse and text correlation. Discourse and functions of language. Linguistic theories of discourse.

Topic 2. Discourse analysis in terms of communicative paradigm. Models of communication (the code model of communication, inferential model, interactional model). The notion of institutional discourse (the political discourse case study).

Topic 3 Linguistic theories of discourse. Models of communication, inferential model, interactional model). Discourse as structure and process. Basic approaches to the analysis of discourse. Discourse analysis vs conversation analysis. Language as a form of social practice (Critical discourse analysis).

Topic 4. Basic categories and notions of discourse analysis and their characteristics. Proposition. Reference. Explication. Inference. Implication. Relevance. Presupposition and entailment.

Topic 5. Discourse and context. Types of pragmatic context. Situational context. Actional context. Psychological context. Cognitive representation of context.

Topic 6. Formats of knowledge representation in discourse. Concepts. Frames. Scripts. Situational models.

Topic 7. Cognitive structures interaction within discourse. Discourse topic. Discourse and text correlation in terms of text concept.

Topic 8. Communicative strategies. The notion of strategy. Cognitive strategies. Language strategies. Grammatical strategies. Discourse strategies.

Topic 9. Coherence and cohesion as discourse categories. Local coherence strategies. Topicality and strategies.

Topic 8. Macrostrategies. Macrostructures and discourse understanding. Discourse, text and context in terms of macrostrategies application.

Topic 9. Schematic strategies. Superstructures.

Topic 10. Production strategies. Propositional, interactive, programmatic production strategies.

Topic 11. Knowledge as the category of discourse. Knowledge system. Strategies for knowledge use in discourse. Knowledge use in metaphor comprehension.

Topic 12. Cognitive model. A framework for a process model.

### III. ASSESSMENT

The course grade is calculated in the following manner:

$$G_{\text{course}} = G_{\text{cum}} * 0.6 + G_{\text{fin.exam}} * 0.4$$

The cumulative grade is calculated in the following manner:

$$G_{\text{cum}} = G_{\text{team project}} * 0.4 + G_{\text{individual project}} * 0.4 + G_{\text{self-study}} * 0.2$$

*Classroom work* features individual and group work, valid contributions to problem solving activities and discussions, and for each student being part of the **team project** that includes classroom presentation of one of the seminar topics.

*The final individual project* is supposed to be prepared in accordance with one of the chosen areas suggested (Individual project topics).

*Self-study* comprises home assignments based on the material of the required and optional literature recommended, i.e. individual project work (written paper and presentation), individual and team work in class (reports, presentations), classroom discussions, definition quiz.

*The final exam* features a theoretical question from the list according to the syllabus and an individual project presentation (10 min) based on the preliminary research work (written paper).

The course does not feature any blocking elements, failure of which will result in failing the course.

If a student fails the course, s/he is entitled to retake the final exam twice. The first retaking repeats the procedure of the final exam. The course instructor calculates the course grade taking into account the

cumulative grade which cannot be improved. The second attempt is taking the exam in front of a board (at least 3 faculty members). This time, the cumulative grade may be disregarded.

#### **IV.SAMPLES OF ASSESSMENT TOOLS**

##### **1. Answer the following questions:**

- a) What are the basic categories and notions of discourse analysis?
- b) What are the main characteristics of discourse and text correlation?
- c) What is the difference between cognitive strategies and language strategies in terms of discourse analysis?

##### **2. Individual project topics:**

1. The field of discourse analysis. The approaches to the notion of discourse and methods of discourse analysis.
2. Knowledge as the category of discourse.
3. Philosophical and methodological basics of discourse analysis.
4. The notion of discourse in linguistics and the Humanities.
5. Approaches to discourse. Discourse and power.
6. Semiotic approach to discourse.
7. The “French school of discourse analysis”.
8. Postmodern discourse theory.
9. Critical discourse analysis.
10. Narrative discourse theory.
11. Linguistic theories of discourse.
12. Models of communication (the code model of communication, inferential model, interactional model).
13. Institutional discourse basic issues.
14. Discourse analysis as compared to conversation analysis.
15. Types of context in terms of discourse analysis.
16. Communicative strategies in terms of discourse analysis.

17. The basic categories of discourse analysis. Proposition.
18. The basic categories of discourse analysis. Reference.
19. The basic categories of discourse analysis. Inference.
20. The basic categories of discourse analysis. Explication.
21. The basic categories of discourse analysis. Implication.
22. The basic categories of discourse analysis. Relevance.
23. The basic categories of discourse analysis. Presupposition and entailment.
24. The basic categories of discourse analysis. Discourse topic.
25. Discourse and text correlation in terms of text concept.
26. Coherence and cohesion as discourse and text categories.
27. Local coherence strategies in terms of discourse analysis.
28. Macrostructures and macrostrategies in terms of discourse analysis.
29. Discourse, text and context in terms of macrostrategies application.
30. Superstructures and schematic strategies in terms of discourse analysis.
31. Production strategies in terms of discourse analysis.
32. Strategies for knowledge use in discourse. Knowledge use in metaphor comprehension.
33. The notion of cognitive model in terms of discourse analysis.
34. Concepts in terms of discourse analysis.
35. Formats of knowledge representation in discourse: frames, scripts and situational models.

##### **5. Sample final exam questions:**

1. Describe the existing approaches to the concept of discourse.
2. What are the basic peculiarities of the Critical discourse analysis approach? Describe the scientific investigations that you've used to discuss the problem.

3. What is institutional discourse? How would you analyze medical discourse in terms of its basic institutional characteristics?

## V. RESOURCES

### Required:

1. Jorgensen M., Phillips L.J, Discourse Analysis as Theory and Method. SAGE Publications, 2002.
2. Paltridge B. Discourse Analysis: An Introduction (Continuum Discourse). N.Y., 2011.
2. Van Dijk T.A. Discourse as Structure and Process. L., 1997.
3. Van Dijk T.A. , Kintch W. Strategies of Discourse Comprehension. N.Y., 1983.

### Optional:

1. Couthard M., Montgomery M. (ed.). Studies in Discourse Analysis. Routledge, 2015.
2. Gumperz J. Discourse strategies. Cambridge, 1982.
3. Schiffrin D. Approaches to Discourse. Oxford; Cambridge, MA, 1994.
4. Sperber D., Wilson D. Relevance: Communication and Cognition. Oxford; Cambridge, MA, 1995.
5. Арутюнова Н.Д. Язык и мир человека. М., 1982.
6. Вишнякова О.Д. Язык и концептуальное пространство (на материале современного английского языка). М., 2002.
7. Карасик В.И. Язык социального статуса. М., 2002.
8. Кибрик А.А. Анализ дискурса в когнитивной перспективе. Дисс. ... докт. Филол. наук в форме науч.доклада. М., 2003.
9. Кубрякова Е.С. Язык и знание. На пути получения знаний о языке. М., 2004.
10. Макаров М.Л. Основы теории дискурса. М., 2003.
11. Степанов Ю.С. Антология. Семиотика. М., 2000.

## 1. Software

| #  | Product name                            | Access                                  |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Microsoft Windows 10                    | University Intranet (See the agreement) |
| 2. | Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2010 | University Intranet (See the agreement) |

## 2. Online databases and resources

| #   | Product name   | Access  |
|---|--|---|
| <i>Professional databases and reference systems</i> |  |   |
| 1   | Consultant Plus  | University Intranet (See the agreement)   |
| 2   | Urait Online Library   | URL: <a href="https://biblio-online.ru/">https://biblio-online.ru/</a>  |
| 3   | ProQuest Ebook Central Database  | URL: <a href="https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/">https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/</a>  |
| <i>Internet Resources</i>                           |  |   |
| 1   | Discourse Analysis Bibliography  | <a href="http://web.ovc.edu/discourse/bibliogr.htm">http://web.ovc.edu/discourse/bibliogr.htm</a>   |
| 2   | DISCOURSE ANALYSIS (CAMBRIDGE TEXTBOOKS IN LINGUISTICS) BY GILLIAN BROWN       | <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/reader/0521284759/#reader_0521284759">HTTPS://WWW.AMAZON.COM/GP/READER/0521284759/#READER_0521284759</a> |
| 3   | <i>The Handbook of Discourse Analysis</i> edited by Deborah Schiffrin, Deborah | <a href="https://www.amazon.com/gp/reader/0631205969/#reader_0631205969">https://www.amazon.com/gp/reader/0631205969/#reader_0631205969</a> |

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|---|---|---|
|   | Tannen,<br>Heidi E<br>Hamilton                      |   |
| 4 | APPROACHES TO<br>DIGITAL<br>DISCOURSE<br>ANALYSIS 2 | <a href="https://www.science-community.org/en/node/194729">https://www.science-community.org/en/node/194729</a> |

### 3. Classrooms and equipment

To teach the course, needed are classrooms equipped with the following: a desktop computer (laptops are accepted as well); overhead projector with a remote control; Internet access, MS Office software.