

Cognitive Linguistics
2011/2012 Spring

Time and Place

Wednesdays 8:00-9:30 in RM 30/A

Instructor

Eszter Nucz

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Office hours: By appointment

Course Description

The aim of this course is to give you an introduction to the field of Cognitive Linguistics. Cognitive Linguistics is often mistakenly thought of as an approach to language analysis only – a general aim of the course is to illustrate that the field has a lot broader spectrum. The course addresses the how's and why's of human meaning making activities. It covers the most important tools of human conceptualization: categorization, framing, conceptual metonymies and conceptual metaphors. We will discuss the relationship between these tools and language and, importantly, we will see the applicability of the Cognitive Linguistic approach to a variety of cultural phenomena other than language.

Requirements

A midterm and an end-term exam

Please note that you have to write both exams in order to get a grade in the course. Also, regular class attendance is a must. No more than 3 classes/semester can be missed.

Grading

Midterm test	40%
End-term test	60%

Projected Course Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Readings for the day</i>
Feb 15	What is Cognitive Linguistics about? Meaning in mind, language, and culture (L1)	<i>LMC</i> , Ch 1
Feb 22	Categorization 1: Theories (L2)	<i>LMC</i> , Ch 2 (WFDT, Ch 2)
Feb 29	Categorization 2: Cultural Considerations (L3)	<i>LMC</i> , Ch 3 (WFDT, Ch 2; PITF, Ch 3)
March 7	Contesting Categories in Culture (L4)	<i>LMC</i> , Ch 4 (Gallie, 1956)
March 14	Frames of knowledge (L5)	<i>LMC</i> , Ch 5 (Petrucci, 1996; WFDT, Ch 4)
March 21	Frame analysis of culture (L6)	<i>LMC</i> , Ch 6 (WFDT, Ch 5, 6)
March 28	Midterm test	The material covered in the course between Feb 15 and March 21
<i>April 4</i>	<i>Spring Break</i>	
April 11	Mappings within frames: Metonymy as a cognitive and a cultural process (L7)	<i>LMC</i> , Ch 7 (Kövecses and Radden, 1998)
April 18	Mappings across frames 1: Metaphor as a cognitive process (L8)	<i>LMC</i> , Ch 8 (METINTR, Ch 1-2; Grady 1997)
April 25	Mappings across frames 2: Metaphor as a cultural process (L9)	<i>LMC</i> , Ch 8 – 9 (METINTR, Ch 14)
May 2	Overview (L10)	

May 9	End-term test	All the material covered in the course
May 16		

Required Reading

Kövecses, Zoltán. 2006. *Language, Mind, and Culture*. (LMC) New York: Oxford University Press.

Recommended Reading

Fauconnier, Gilles. 1997. *Mappings in Thought and Language*. Cambridge University Press. (Chs. 1, 2 and 6.)

Fillmore, Charles. 1982. Frame Semantics. In *Linguistics in the Morning Calm*. Seoul: Hanshin. 111-137.

Gallie, W.B. 1956. Essentially Contested Concepts. *Proceedings of the Philosophical Society*, Vol. 51. London: Harrison and Sons, Ltd. 167-198.

Grady, Joseph. 1997. "THEORIES ARE BUILDINGS revisited." *Cognitive Linguistics*, 8, 267-290.

Kövecses, Zoltán. 2010. *Metaphor. A Practical Introduction*. (METINTR) Oxford University Press.

Kövecses, Zoltán. *Metaphor and Emotion*. Cambridge University Press. (Chs. 5, 6, and 10.)

Kövecses, Zoltán and Gunter Radden. 1998. Metonymy: developing a cognitive linguistic view. *Cognitive Linguistics*, 9-1, 37-77.

Lakoff, George. 1987. *Women, Fire, and Dangerous Things: What Categories Reveal About The Mind*. (WFDT) Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Lakoff, George and Mark Johnson. 1999. *Philosophy in the Flesh*. (PITF) (Ch 1, 2, 3, and Appendix). Basic Books.

Levinson, Stephen C. 1997. Language and cognition: The cognitive consequences of spatial description in Guugu Yimithirr. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* 7(1): 98-131.

Mervis, Carolyn and Eleanor Rosch. 1981. Categorization of Natural Objects. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 32:89-115.

Petrucci, Miriam R. L. 1996. Frame semantics. In J. Verschueren, J-O. Ostman, J. Blommaert, and C. Bulcaen (eds.), *Handbook of Pragmatics*, Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Rosch, Eleanor. 1977. Human Categorization. In N. Warren (ed.) *Studies in Cross-Cultural Psychology*. London: Academic Press.

Slobin, Dan. 2000. Verbalized events: A dynamic approach to linguistic relativity and determinism. In *Evidence for Linguistic Relativity*, eds. Susanne Niemeier and René Dirven. Amsterdam: John Benjamins. 107-138.