

Courses –2021/2022 spring semester

The social and discourse aspects of language

The course aims at giving both a theoretical and a practical insight into the social and discourse aspects of language by focusing on the different forms of institutional discourse in the context of school. The reading material will familiarize students with the various interactions of school participants as well as with the written, visual and spoken types of data these interactions provide for analysis. During the course, students will also be asked to design and carry out some small-scale research to enable them to develop a solid and practical understanding of social language use in their own surroundings.

Language and gender

The main aim of the course is to help students investigate the significance of the notion of gender in linguistics. First, the (non-)existence and the usage of the grammatical gender will be examined across different languages. Second, the impact of gender on general linguistic research will be discussed with a particular emphasis on gender as a social variable in sociolinguistics. In the course of the semester, students will be required to choose a special linguistic topic of interest and to do some library research on how gender is connected to this topic. Students in the OMA(L) training will also prepare a lesson plan in which they show how they would teach gender in the classroom.

Second language acquisition

The purpose of the course is to familiarize students with some notions in the field of second language acquisition both from a theoretical and a practical point of view. The topics of the course include the issues of research methods, the dynamic aspect of SLA, learners' characteristics, instruction, proficiency, language contact and multilingualism. Students will be required to conduct a small-scale study throughout the course as well as to do peer-teaching to demonstrate that they understand and are able to apply their theoretical knowledge in practice.