INSTITUTO POLITÉCNICO DE BRAGANÇA

Course Unit	Language and Communication		Field of study	-	
Bachelor in	Languages for International Relations		School	School of Education	
Academic Year	2023/2024	Year of study	2	Level	1-2	ECTS credits	4.0
Type	Semestral	Semester	1	Code	8374-767-2104-00-23

Workload (hours)	108	Contact hours	T	-	TP	36	PL	-	TC	-	S	-	E	-	OT	9	O	-

T - Lectures; TP - Lectures and problem-solving; PL - Problem-solving, project or laboratory; TC - Fieldwork; S - Seminar; E - Placement; OT - Tutorial; O - Other

Name(s) of lecturer(s)	Carla Sofia Lima Barreira Araujo

Learning outcomes and competences

At the end of the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:
1. distinguish language from communication;
2. understand language as a genetic human faculty biologically founded;
3. understand language as a universal faculty that permits us the acquisition and usage of natural languages;
4. understand language as an architecture constituted by three structures (phonology, semantics and syntax) founded in a sensory-motor system, a conceptual system and a computational system;
5. relate language with other cognitive faculties;
6. to know the main theoretical framings referring to the theories and to the models of communication;
7. understand the phenomena of the human communication and its communicative behaviours in the interaction with the target-public;
8. interpret and analyse several communicative constructs.

Prerequisites

Before the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:
Not applicable.

Course contents

Language vs. communication vs. expression. Language vs. idiom vs. speech vs. voice. Language as a genetic faculty biologically founded. Language architecture: sensory-motor, conceptual and computational systems; phonological, semantic and syntactic structures. Language and cognition. Language as a socialization factor. Pragmatics: from the linguistic competence to the discursive competence. Theories of information – Theories of communication: historical perspective. Mass communication.

Course contents (extended version)

1. Language vs. communication vs. expression
   - Existence or non existence of these faculties in different animal species
2. Language vs. idiom vs. speech vs. voice
   - Idioms as systems
   - Universal grammar vs. grammars
3. Language as a genetic faculty biologically founded
   - Biological foundations of language
   - Ontogenetical development of language
   - Phylogenetical development of language
   - Language and protolanguage
4. Language architecture
   - Sensory-motor, conceptual and computational systems
   - Phonological, semantic and syntactic structures
   - Substructures: the case of morphology
5. Language and cognition
   - Mental structures of information vs. perception vs. action
   - Conceptual structure, vision, hearing, spacial structure
   - Interaction between the faculties: network or modularity
6. Language as a socialization factor
7. Pragmatics: from the linguistic competence to the discursive competence
   - Components of the situation of speech and their influence in the discourse
   - Nonlinguistic components of communication
8. Capacity of interpretation vs. capacity of communications vs. capacity of expression
9. Theories of information – Theories of communication: historical perspective
   - Definition of concepts: schools, models and types of communication
10. Mass communication

Recommended reading

1. Eco, U. (2014). From the tree to the labyrinth: historical studies on the sign and interpretation. Harvard University Press.
2. Jackendoff, R. (2002). Foundations of language: brain, meaning, grammar, evolution. Oxford University Press.
3. Jackendoff, R. (2009). Language, consciousness, culture: essays on mental structure (Jean Nicod Lectures). Oxford University Press.
4. Pinker, S. (2008). The stuff of thought: language as a window into human nature. Penguin Books.
5. Rodrigues, A. (2012). Jackendoff e a arquitectura paralela. Apresentação e discussão de um modelo de linguagem. Lincom.

Teaching and learning methods

Theoretical-practical classes will be expositive and different type of texts (films, literature, paintings) will be analysed. Tutorials will consist in the orientation of bibliographic research and in the resolution of practical problems, as well as in the orientation of their individual evaluation works.

Assessment methods

1. Continuous assessment - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final)
   - Intermediate Written Test - 50%
   - Intermediate Written Test - 50%
2. Assessment by exam - (Regular, Student Worker) (Supplementary, Special)
   - Final Written Exam - 100%

Language of instruction

Portuguese

Electronic validation

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18-12-2023	19-12-2023	20-12-2023	11-02-2024