

Course Syllabus

Political Linguistics

5 ECTS, 1st-year MA Programme in Political Linguistics

Approved
By the Academic Council of the Academic Programme
Protocol № « ____ » _____ 2019г.

Authors: Natalia E. Gronskaya, Professor
Department of Applied Linguistics and Foreign Languages, National
Research University Higher School of Economics – Nizhny Novgorod
ngronskaya@hse.ru

Natalia N. Morozova, Associate Professor
Department of Social Sciences, National Research University Higher
School of Economics – Nizhny Novgorod
nmmorozova@hse.ru

Meeting Minute № _____ dated _____

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

- a) the following courses are the prerequisites for learning the discipline: “Basic Linguistic Theory”, “Research Methodologies and Methods in Political Linguistics”, “Sociolinguistics of Media Discourse”;
- b) This is a compulsory core course offered to MA students specializing in Political Linguistics in the 1st year of studies in the 2-3 modules. The overall course workload is 190 hrs., including 72 hrs. of classroom interaction and 118 hrs. of self-study. The course aims firstly to familiarize students with the subject matter and problematic of political linguistics, with the research questions that a political linguist can ask. Secondly, the course will introduce students to the key terms and concepts in political linguistics, in particular the key concept of discourse. Thirdly, the course will introduce students to the research methodologies and methods of studying political discourse with a particular emphasis on critical discourse analysis. Finally, students will learn how to apply critical discourse analysis methodology to the study of political discourse, how to make well-founded research claims and present them fellow students.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the course “Political Linguistics” are:

- to train MA students specializing in Political Linguistics to conduct independent research and manage research projects in the area of generating, commenting on and analyzing political texts;
- to train MA students to formulate a research question, to critically reflect on and assess the existing research methods and methodologies and find appropriate and most effective ways of approaching particular research problems;

- to train MA students to formulate, present and discuss one's own and others' arguments;

3. LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of mastering the discipline a student must:

know:

- research problems in the area of political linguistics and the history of political linguistics as a field of studies and a discipline;
- the main theoretical approaches and research methodologies in political linguistics;

learn how to:

- analyze the advantages and disadvantages of using specific methods and technologies in political linguistics research;
- formulate a research problem in political linguistics terms and suggest the most appropriate and effective way of approaching it;
- take part in an academic and expert discussion, put forward and defend an argument/claim, take into account opposing arguments/points of view;

to be able to:

- conduct data search, identify and locate relevant sources, assess their reliability, extract necessary information;
- prepare policy briefs and analytical reports as well as presentations dealing with political topics;

4. COURSE PLAN

Part 1. Language and Politics. Do politicians have their own language? Different dimensions of interaction between language and politics. Communication (speech) impact and manipulation. Linguistic and extralinguistic preconditions of communication (speech) impact.

Part 2. Key terms and concepts in political linguistics. Political communication: what makes communication political? Forms of political communication, main actors and their objectives. Text and discourse. Discourse as a unit of language and a social practice. Media and political discourse as forms of institutionalized social practice.

Part 3. Methods of researching the linguistic personality of a politician. Theory of linguistic personality and a politician's linguistic personality. Methods of researching the linguistic personality of a politician.

Part 4. Methods of political discourse analysis. Critical discourse analysis (T. van Dijk). Critical discourse theory of political argumentation (N. Fairclough). Poststructuralist political discourse analysis (E. Laclau and Ch. Mouffe).

5. READING LIST

a. Required readings

1. Schiffrin, D., Tannen, D., Hamilton, H.E. and McMullin, T.L. Handbook of Discourse Analysis, 2nd ed. [Электронный ресурс]: Монография. – John Wiley & Sons Inc., 2015. – ISBN: 978-0-470-67074-3. – Режим доступа: http://www.philsci.univ.kiev.ua/UKR/courses/asp/asp-lit/tannen_d_hamilton_h_e_schiffrin_d_ed_s_the_handbook_of_discou.pdf. – Загл. с экрана.

b. Optional readings

1. Репина, Е.А. Политический текст: психолингвистический анализ воздействия на электорат [Электронный ресурс]: монография / Е.А.Репина; под ред. В.П.Белянина; предисл. В.А.Шкурадова; ЭБС Znanium. - М.:НИЦ ИНФРА-М, 2018. - 90 с. - (Научная мысль). – ISBN 978-5-16-005215-1. - Режим доступа: <http://znanium.com/bookread2.php?book=918116>. – Загл. с экрана.

2. Баранов, А.Н. Введение в прикладную лингвистику: [учебник] / А.Н.Баранов; Московский гос. ун-т им. М. В. Ломоносова, Филологический фак. - 5-е изд. - М. : URSS : ЛЕНАНД, 2017. - 367 с. - (Новый лингвистический учебник).

3. Ван Дейк, Т.А. Язык. Познание. Коммуникация / Т.А.Ван Дейк; пер. с англ. под ред. В.И.Герасимова; сост. В.В.Петрова; вступ. ст. Ю.Н.Караулова, В.В.Петрова. - 2-е изд. - М.: ЛЕНАНД, 2015. - 310 с.

4. Алтунян, А.Г. Анализ политических текстов [Электронный ресурс]: учебное пособие / А.Г.Алтунян; ЭБС Znanium. - М.: Логос, 2014. - 384 с. – Режим доступа: <http://znanium.com/bookread2.php?book=480322>. – Загл. с экрана.

5. Discourse and Communication: New Approaches to the Analysis of Mass Media Discourse and Communication [Электронный ресурс]: Монография / Ed. by T. van Dijk; ЭБС ProQuestEbrary. – Berlin; New York: De Gruyter, 2011. – ISBN: <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/hselibrary/reader.action?docID=10599136>. – Загл. с экрана.

6. Discursive Construction of National Identity [Электронный ресурс]: Монография / Ed. by R.Wodak, R. de Cilia, M.Reisigl; ЭБС ProQuestEbrary. – Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2009. – ISBN: 978074863726. – Режим доступа: <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/hselibrary/detail.action?docID=10277557>. – Загл. с экрана.

7. Foster S. Politics Study Guides: Political Communication [Электронный ресурс]: Монография / S.Foster; ЭБС ProQuestEbrary. - Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2010. – ISBN: 9780748625710. - Режим доступа: <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/hselibrary/detail.action?docID=10391785>. – Загл. с экрана.

8. Methods of Critical Discourse Analysis [Электронный ресурс]: Монография / Ed. by R.Wodak, M. Meyer; ЭБС ProQuestEbrary. – London: SAGE, 2002. – 208 с. – ISBN: 9700761961536. – Режим доступа: <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/hselibrary/detail.action?docID=10080947>. – Загл. с экрана.

9. Politics as Text and Talk. Analytic Approaches to Political Discourse[Электронный ресурс]: Монография / Ed. by P.Chilton, Ch. Schäffner; ЭБС ProQuestEbrary. – Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company, 2002. – 256 с. – ISBN: 9789027226945. – Режим доступа: <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/hselibrary/detail.action?docID=10023489>. – Загл. с экрана.

c) Dictionaries

1. Семкин, М.А. Актуальные термины политической лингвистики: словарь современных медиа [Электронный ресурс] / М.А.Семкин; ЭБС Znanium. - М.: Форум, НИЦ ИНФРА-М, 2015. - 112 с. – Режим доступа: <http://znanium.com/bookread2.php?book=505761>. – Загл. с экрана.

6. GRADING SYSTEM

The resulting grade for interim assessment is set by the following formula, where O_{exam} – grade for participation in the expert meeting; $O_{participation}$ – grade for participation in seminars and practical classes; $O_{colloquium}$ – grade for participation in the colloquium; O_{assign} - grade for written home assignment in the form of discourse analysis of a media text:

$$O_{final} = 0,35 \cdot O_{exam} + 0,15 \cdot O_{participation} + 0,25 O_{colloquium} + 0,25 O_{assign}$$

7. EXAMINATION TYPE

Role play “Expert meeting (Parliamentary hearing)” is held during one of the last sessions of the course. The students are divided into 4 teams (4-6 people) beforehand and must choose within their groups which topic they want to discuss. Two teams are tasked with preparing their expert positions on one topic, while the other two teams are preparing their expert positions on the other topic. The teams debating the same topic should present opposing positions that should be well-argued and supported by factual data. They should outline their own argument and also criticize and oppose the other team’s position. One student should be chosen to chair the expert meeting. The format of the expert hearing is as follows:

- Expert opinion (position) is presented – 5-7 minutes
- 3 questions are asked by the opponents – 10-15 minutes
- 3 questions are asked by the chair – 10-15 minutes
- Final statement is given by the team – 3-4 minutes

Students receive topics at the beginning of the course and prepare for the expert meeting as they move along the course. The preparation takes place during the self-study time.

8. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- interactive lectures
- seminars
- practical classes
- role play
- colloquium
- written analytical reports
- classroom discussions
- self-study

9. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE SUPPORT

№ п/п	Name	Conditions of Access
1.	Microsoft Windows 7 Professional RUS	Government contract №21 from 14.12.2009
2.	Microsoft Office Professional Plus 2013	License agreement № 8.1.6.19- 16/07 from 25.05.2015

Classrooms for self-study are equipped with personal computers with Internet access and access to the educational information system of the Higher School of Economics.