UNIVERSITATEA BABEŞ-BOLYAI
BABEŞ-BOLYAI TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM
BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITÄT
BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY
TRADITIO ET EXCELLENTIA

Facultatea de Litere
Str. Horea nr. 31
400202, Cluj-Napoca
Tel: 0264 5322388
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COURSE SYLLABUS

1. Information about the study program

1.1 University	Babeş-Bolyai University
1.2 Faculty	Faculty of Letters
1.3 Department	English Language and Literature
1.4 Field of study	Philology
1.5 Study cycle (BA/MA)	Master
1.6 Study program/Qualification	Current Trends in Linguistics (DAL - Direcţii actuale în lingvistică)

2. Information about the subject

2.1 Course title/Code		LMF2133 Text Semiotics (taught in Romanian)						
2.2 Course tutor		Dumitru-Cornel Vîlcu, PhD, lecturer						
2.3 Seminar tutor		Dumitru-Cornel Vîlcu, PhD, lecturer						
2.4 Year of study	1	2.5 Semester	1	2.6 Type of assessment	E	2.7 Course status	Contents	DA
							Mandatory	yes

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1 Number of hours per week	3	of which: 3.2 course	1	3.3 seminar/laboratory	2
3.4 Total number of hours in the curriculum	42	of which: 3.5 course	14	3.6 seminar/laboratory	28

Time distribution	Hours
Study based on textbook/course manual/recommended reading/personal notes	28
Additional research in the library, by accessing scientific databases, or during field work	28
Preparation for seminars/laboratory classes, essays, portfolios and reports	28
Tutoring	3
Assessment (examinations)	3
Other activities	-

3.7 Total hours for individual study	90	
3.8 Total hours per semester	132	
3.9 Number of credits	6	

4. Prerequisites (if necessary)

4.1 Curriculum	-
4.2 Skills	Knowledge of fundamental information in the domains of Linguistics and Semiotics (bachelor level); knowledge of English, French and Romanian languages - so as to permit the study of bibliography and seminar texts.

5. Conditions (if necessary)

5.1. For delivering lectures	-
5.2. For teaching seminars/laboratory classes	- 66% attendance mandatory for all students

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6. Acquired specific competences

Professional competences	cognitive competence: ● capacity to recognize the theoretical origin (and "ideological" tendencies) of given scientific texts - regarding the domains of language and/ or signs in general ● capacity to interpret and explain such texts ● capacity for synthetic and critical thinking ● knowledge (and acquired practice) of the main techniques for corellating/ combining non-verbal and linguistic signs functional competence: ● capacity of designing/ elaborating texts for the three basic domains of language and (verbal or semiotic) discourse: *apophantic* (cognition, science, logical argumentation), pragmatic (general and domain-specific communicatiion, advertising, PR) and poetic (literary, fictional, artistic
Transversal competences	CT1 Use of the components within the *Language and literature* domain, according to professional ethics CT2 Capacity for team work, interpersonal communication and assuming specific (professional) functions/ roles.

7. Course objectives (derived from the specific competences acquired)

7.1 General objective of course	● clarifying/ explaining the relationship between the linguistic sign(s) and the other types of sign within the domain of semiotics ● discussing the epistemological status of these sciences and their connection to other fields of study: hermeneutics, logic, theory of communication, general pragmatics etc ● extension of the students' prior knowledge regarding the relation between the (fixed, objectively present) text and its (manifold, contextualised) usage
7.2 Specific objectives	enabling students to discuss and apply theoretical knowledge related to: ● the foundation of Semiotics as a modern science, through the works of Peirce, Husserl and Saussure ● the problem of *reference* (and "truth-conditional" semantics) *vs. designatum* (as it results from the extension of structural semantics) ● accordingly, the differentiation between the "cognitive" (Sperber, Wilson) and the "integrated" (Ducrot, Anscombre) trends in contemporary pragmatics ● the two semiotic articulations within (Coseriu's) integral linguistics ● the distinction between the simply semantic language and the three intentional orientations of discourse: apofantic, pragmatic, poetic ● the place of Semiotics within the ensemble of the cultural (human) sciences

8. Contents

8.1 Lectures	Teaching methods	Remarks
01. INTRODUCTORY: summary of the fundamental notions in General Linguistics and Semiotics discussed in the preceding years (BA studies)	enhanced lecture	
02. THREE SEMIOTIC PROJECTS (1): Saussure's "semiology"; Peirce's pragmatic Semiotics; Edmund Husserl's "logic of signs"		
03. THREE SEMIOTIC PROJECTS (2): logic, Semiotics, philosophy, phenomenology in Husserl's works. Comparison of the semiotic projects previously described.		
04. THEORY OF SIGNS, EPISTEMOLOGY, "*GEISTESWISSENSCHAFTEN*". Semiotics and hermeneutics.		
05. DENOTATION AND REFERENCE (1): The problem of the relation between language and reality/ between "words" and "things". Truth-conditional semantics. Limits of logic.		

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06. DENOTATION AND REFERENCE (2): *Designata* as intentional objects. Language between semantics and apophantics. The referential dimension in textual sense.		
07. LIMITS OF COMMUNICATION (1): Signs, discourse and the transmission of information (Saussure, Bühler, Jakobson etc.). Decoding and inference.		
08. LIMITS OF COMMUNICATION (2): Beyond communication: Wilhelm von Humboldt. Communication and sense constitution.		
09. PRAGMATICS AND LINGUISTICS. The "cognitive" vs. "integrated" trends in Pragmatics. Pragmatic facts and their scientific treatment. Theses regarding the future of pragmatics.		
10. PRAGMATIC PHENOMENA AND THE BUILDING OF TEXT: *Deixis*; anaphor, cataphor; textual connectors; textual networks.		
11. LINGUISTICS VS. SEMIOTICS OF TEXT. Text as a "trans-phrasal" phenomenon vs. text as a distinct plane/ level of language.		
12. TEXT LINGUISTICS AS HERMENEUTICS. First semiotic articulation. Second semiotic articulation. Textual functions (in Integral/ Coserian linguistics).		
13. SIGN, SYMBOL, WORD. Towards an integral(ist) reconstruction of Semiotics.		
14. SUMMARISING LECTURE; presentation (and brief discussion) of the themes involved in the assessment (examination).		

Bibliography

Codoban, Aurel - **Structura semiologică a structuralismului. Critica unei semiologii pure şi practice**, Ed. Dacia, Cluj-Napoca, 1984

Coseriu, Eugenio - **Le langage: *diacriticon tes ousias*. Dix thèses à propos de l'essence du langage et du signifié**, in **Percevoir: monde et langage. Invariance et variabilité du sens vécu**, Mardaga, Liège, avril 2001, p. 79-84

Coseriu, Eugenio - **Linguistica del testo. Introduzione a una ermeneutica del senso**, La Nuova Italia Scientifica, Roma, 1997

Coşeriu, Eugen - **Semn, simbol, cuvînt**, in "Analele Ştiinţifice ale Universităţii 'Al. I. Cuza' din Iaşi", Lingvistică, Tomul XXXIX, 1993, p. 5-23

Fiinţă şi limbaj - Eugeniu Coşeriu interviewed by Lucian Lazăr, in "Echinox", Cluj-Napoca, nr. 10-12/ 1996, p. 3-6

Coşeriu, Eugeniu - **Omul şi limbajul său. Studii de filosofie a limbajului, teorie a limbii şi lingvistică generală**, Editura Universităţii "A.I Cuza", Iaşi, 2009

Moeschler, Jacques & Reboul, Anne - **Dicţionar Enciclopedic de Pragmatică**, Editura Echinox, Cluj-Napoca, 1999 [Introducere, cap. 2-6]

Peirce, Charles Sanders - **Semnificaţie şi acţiune**, Ed. Humanitas, Bucureşti, 1990, p. 43-66

de Saussure, Ferdinand - **Curs de lingvistică generală**, Ed. Polirom, Iaşi, 1998

de Saussure, Ferdinand - **Scrieri de lingvistică generală**, Editura Polirom, Iaşi, 2004

Vlad, Carmen - **Textul-aisberg**, Ed. Casa Cărţii de Ştiinţă, Cluj-Napoca, 2000

8.2 Seminars	Teaching methods	Remarks
same themes as above – 2h/ week	debate/ seminar	

Bibliography:

Ernst Cassirer – **Eseu despre om. O introducere în filosofia culturii umane**, Ed. Humanitas, Bucureşti, 1994

Eugeniu Coşeriu – "Limbajul şi înţelegerea existenţială a omului actual", in **Omul şi limbajul său. Studii de filosofie a limbajului, teorie a limbii şi lingvistică generală**, Editura Universităţii "A.I Cuza", Iaşi, 2009

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Eugeniu Coşeriu **– Sincronie, diacronie şi istorie,** Ed. Enciclopedică, Bucureşti, 1997

Guy Deutscher - **Through the Language Glass. Why the world looks different in other languages**, Metropolitan Books, New York, 2010

Wilhelm von Humboldt **- La différence de construction du langage dans l'humanité et l'influence qu'elle exerce sur le développement spirituel de l'espèce humaine**, in **Introduction à l'oeuvre sur le kawi et autres essais**, Eds. du Seuil, Paris, 1974

Roman Jakobson – **"On Linguistic Aspects of Translation"**

Steven Pinker – **The Language Instinct. The New Science of Language and Mind**, Penguin Books, 1995

Paul Ricoeur, **„Ce este un text?"**, in **Eseuri de hermeneutică**, Ed. Humanitas, Bucureşti, 1995, p. 111-132

9. Validating course contents based on the expectations of epistemic communities, professional associations and of potential employers related to the field of study.

Today Semiotics is a fundamental subject matter within the field of human sciences. Also, in the last decades the problem of text and textuality became a topic of predilection for general and idiomatic, theoretical and applied Linguistics. The employment of the knowledge acquired in this program mainly concerns the professional fields of teaching language and literature, text editing, public relations and advertising.

10. Assessment (examination)

Type of activity	10.1 Assessment criteria	10.2 Assessment methods	10.3 Quota in the final grade
10.4 Course	knowledge/ capacity for applying the acquired concepts and theories	final exam	2/3
10.5 Seminar	Capacity of understanding/ interpreting/ commenting science texts already studied, but also new ones.	final exam	1/3
10.6 Minimum performance standard			
the minimum grade for passing this exam is 5 (out of 10 points)			

Date 10.04.2022	Course tutor's signature	Seminar tutor's signature
Date of department endorsement 14.04.2022	Head of department's signature	
Date of Dean's endorsement	Signature of the vice-Dean in charge	Faculty stamp

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