

PS Introduction to Corpus Linguistics

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Proseminar

Mittwoch 12.00h -14.00h

Multimediazentrum I SR 204

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Corpus linguistics can be described as the study of linguistic phenomena through large collections of written text and spoken discourse. Rather than a sub-branch of linguistics, it is thus more a methodological approach applicable to virtually all areas of linguistic inquiry.

In consequence, this course is best conceived of as an opportunity to get familiarized with a powerful framework that will help you conduct your own empirical research in future seminars and/or your final theses.

Having successfully completed this course you will know how to

- develop a valid research hypothesis
- extract relevant data from a corpus using concordancing software
- export, re-format and arrange the data for subsequent analysis
- evaluate the observed patterns statistically*
- write a term paper based on your own empirical research

Course Requirements:

- weekly reading assignments and/or short homework assignments
- empirical term paper (12-15 pages)
 - >>basic<< computer skills are mandatory

* This course does not presuppose any statistical knowledge as elementary statistical concepts and tests will be introduced in class.