

Lexicology

Spring 2004

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Syllabus: SEMINARS

Week 1

Introduction and bibliographical information.

Lexicology as a linguistic discipline.

The act of naming. Naming unit - conventionality and universality.

Linguistic sign, its types and properties.

Reference and denotation.

Week 2

Semantic nucleus, semantic environment, semantic/lexical field.

Classification of meaning. Conceptual and associative meaning.

Change of meaning (extension, restriction, pejoration, amelioration).

Week 3

Inflectional and derivational morphology. Morphemes - free and bound. Root, affix, stem.

Week 4

Compounding – coordinate and subordinate, endocentric and exocentric compounds.

Week 5

Derivation. Back formation. Conversion. Abbreviation: clippings, acronyms, blends.

Week 6

Collocations/word groups and phraseological units. Lexical chains.

Week 7

Semantic relationships between lexical units (sense relations): polysemy, homonymy, hyponymy, synonymy and antonymy (complementarity, converseness).

Week 8

Language figures: metaphor, metonymy, simile, taboo, euphemism, dysphemism, understatement, hyperbole, synecdoche, litotes. Loan words.

Week 9

Form classes - nouns. Number, countability, definiteness, case, gender.

Week 10

Form classes - adjectives. Central and peripheral adjectives. Stative and dynamic adjectives. Gradability.

Week 11

Form classes - pronouns. Reference - anaphora, cataphora, exophora/deixis. Adverbs.

Week 12

Form classes - verbs. Transitivity. Stative and dynamic verbs. Tense, voice, aspect, mood.

Week 13

Final test. Colloquy.

Lexicology - Spring 2004 - topics:

Lexicology as a linguistic discipline. The functional analysis of a language.

Vocabulary, lexicon, lexeme, word.

The act of naming. Naming unit - conventionality and universality.

Linguistic sign, its types and properties.
Reference and denotation.

Semantic nucleus, semantic environment, semantic/lexical field.

Classification of meaning. Conceptual and associative meaning.
Change of meaning (extension, restriction, pejoration, amelioration).

The classification of naming units - word/form classes. Open and closed sets. Motivated and non-motivated words.

Inflectional and derivational morphology. Morphemes - free and bound. Root, affix, stem.

Compounding – coordinate and subordinate, endocentric and exocentric compounds.

Derivation. Back formation. Conversion. Abbreviation: clippings, acronyms, blends.

Collocations/word groups and phraseological units. Lexical chains.

Diachronic and synchronic approach to the study of the wordstock. The comparative vs. contrastive method.

The origin and development of the English wordstock. Word formation processes: derivation, compounding, back formation.
Foreign naming units.

Semantic relationships between lexical units: polysemy, homonymy, paronymy, hyponymy, synonymy and antonymy (complementarity, converseness).

Semantic and stylistic neologisms. Metaphor, metonymy. Simile, taboo, euphemism, dysphemism, understatement, hyperbole, synecdoche, litotes.
The stratification of the English wordstock. Standard English, geographical dialects and sociolects.
Centre and periphery in the lexis of a language. Language varieties.
Stylistic differentiation of the lexicon. Functional styles.
Lexical cohesion and coherence of a text. Lexical chains.

Form classes - nouns. Number, countability, definiteness, case, gender.
Form classes - adjectives. Central and peripheral adjectives. Stative and dynamic adjectives. Gradability.
Form classes - pronouns. Reference - anaphora, cataphora, exophora/deixis.
Form classes - verbs. Transitivity. Stative and dynamic verbs. Tense, voice, aspect, mood.

Lexicography. Types of dictionaries. The structure of dictionary entries. Corpus.

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