

French Linguistics II (A000961)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 4.0

Study time 120 h

Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Vajnovszki, Anais

LW06

staff member

Crible, Ludivine

LW06

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

crdts

offering

Teaching languages

French

Keywords

Modern French, linguistics, semantics, pragmatics, research methodology, research skills

Position of the course

This course aims to introduce the students to the main models in semantics and pragmatics of French and to enrich their vocabulary. The students are introduced to scientific research in the field of French linguistics through the paper they have to write, with attention for methodology and academic writing.

Contents

Critical survey of the main theories in meaning analysis, from historical semantics to the cognitive and pragmatic models. The various analytical techniques will be applied to a variety of French examples. Both lexical and grammatical semantics are discussed. In particular, the course covers 4 clusters :

- lexical semantics
- the syntax-semantics interface
- discourse semantics
- pragmatics

Initial competences

To have completed the course French Linguistics I or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Expected language level : B2

Final competences

- 1 Understand, define and recognize several theoretical frameworks of semantics
- 2 Understand, define and recognize several mechanisms of meaning change from Latin to contemporary French
- 3 Understand, define and recognize several mechanisms of lexical and meaning variation in contemporary French
- 4 Apply different semantic frameworks to the analysis of French words and sentences
- 5 Restate, compare and criticize dictionary definitions
- 6 Practise corpus-based analysis on a case study
- 7 Report on research (dictionary and corpus-based) in a synthetic and accurate way
- 8 Acquire (passive) knowledge of a broad vocabulary from different registers, level

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

In the seminar, the learning material is presented in an interactive way and assimilated during the practical exercises. A limited part of the course material is provided online as an interactive module on Ufora (enriched knowledge clips). The team work consists of a written paper on a specified topic. Students are given guidance by the teaching team on campus or online, collectively and individually. The lessons take place on campus. Teaching methods may be modified if this proves necessary because of medical circumstances (e.g. covid-19). This course assumes the responsible use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI). During the lessons, what this means will be explained.

Study material

None

References

Lehmann Alise & Martin-Berthet 2008, *Introduction à la lexicologie. Sémantique et morphologie*, Paris, Colin. (available at the library).
Additional references will be provided at the beginning of the semester.

Course content-related study coaching

By the professor and the assistants on a collective as well as an individual basis

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

First examination session : Written exam + paper in group
Second examination session : written exam

Calculation of the examination mark

First examination session : written exam (80%) - paper (20%)
Second examination session : written exam (100%)
The calculation of the final mark for the written exam and for the paper takes into account the level of French. Major lexical or grammatical mistakes are penalized (until 3 points out of 20 can be removed from the total).
To pass this course, students must obtain at least 10/20 for both the periodic and non-periodic evaluation. When students get less than 10/20 for one of the two evaluation forms, then they can no longer pass the whole course unit. If the final score still reaches 10 or more, it is then brought down to the highest non-passing grade (viz. 9/20).

Facilities for Working Students

1. Absence is allowed
2. Lectures will not be recorded but sufficient online learning material will be provided

3. It is possible to take the exam at a different time within the regular exam period
4. Possibility to receive feedback at another time: by appointment