

English Linguistics III: Analysis of Spoken Interaction (A005060)

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

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

De Soete, Alexander

LW06

staff member

Slembrouck, Stef

LW06

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

crdts

offering

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

English, linguistics, analysis of spoken interaction

Position of the course

This advanced course helps students develop insight into the description and interpretation of spoken interaction and oral language use, especially with regard to its sequential structure and interactional construction. The course covers institutionalised interaction types such as television news, talk shows, stand-up comedy, service encounters, guided tours, sports classes, game situations, classroom interaction, etc.

Position of the course in terms of language proficiency: In the third year of the bachelor programme in English, students are expected to further consolidate a C1 level of proficiency ("Expert"/"Effective" proficiency). Specific attention is paid to the further development of presentation techniques and oral language proficiency in a context of an academic presentation.

Contents

Language, context and situation. Spoken language as a pervasive social phenomenon. Language use as (part of) interaction. Language use and body actional behaviour. Context as a theoretical and methodological challenge. Transcription. Ethnomethodology. Frame analysis, incl. participation frameworks. Conversation analysis and sequential structure. Interactional sociolinguistics and contextualisation. Indexicality.

Initial competences

To have successfully completed English Linguistics I and Linguistic Proficiency in English I and II, or to have mastered the envisaged competences in another way. To have mastered English at an initial C1 level (i.e. C1.1, First stage of "Expert"/"Effective operational" proficiency).

Final competences

- 1 To master a number of research methods that can be applied to the study of discourse as an everyday phenomenon in society.
- 2 To have developed an insight into the description and interpretation of linguistic and other (e.g. body-actional) aspects of interaction.
- 3 To be acquainted with a number of research paradigms.
- 4 Oral language proficiency and mastery of presentation techniques as required in the context of an academic presentation by a "novice" expert.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lectures
- Independent work: a group presentation in which the students present a small-scale project on the basis of a recorded "conversation in English". The data is transcribed and the analysis focuses on a theoretical/methodological theme that was discussed during the lectures.
- The textbook is processed independently.
- For some groups, developing their research project involves a fieldwork stage.
- The "coaching sessions" are problem-driven.

Study material

None

References**Course content-related study coaching**

Four *coaching sessions*. Three coaching sessions are organised around a specific stage of the group assignment (I: data collection, II: transcription, III: analysis). One member per team attends (rotating responsibilities). The fourth coaching session is per team (all members attend). The fourth session prepares for the presentation.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Oral assessment, Peer and/or self assessment, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods*Assessment moment*

Periodical: exam (50%) and non-periodical: continuous assessment (50%)

(If a student did not pass the non-periodical evaluation, no second chance is offered by means of a compensational activity between the first and second exam period.)

Assessment form

- Permanent evaluation: presentation (in small groups).
- Oral exam with questions on knowledge. The exam is in line with the intended final competences.

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodical: exam (50%) and non-periodical: permanent evaluation (50%)

Students who do not take part in the assessment of one or more parts of the course evaluation, or obtain a mark lower than 10/20 for one of the parts, cannot obtain a pass mark for the course as a whole. In those cases where the average overall mark is higher than 10/20, the final mark will be reduced to the highest non-pass mark (= 9).

Weight language proficiency and presentation skills: 50% of the mark for the group presentation.

Facilities for Working Students

1. Student attendance of the sessions is compulsory.
2. Oral exam can be taken at some other point during the academic year.
3. Feedback can be given by email or by appointment.

Extra information: the presentation is in small groups and cannot be organized outside the scheduled classes.

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy