



Syllabus

Department	Department of English Studies						Year	2025/ 2026		
Course	Computer Methods for Analysing Texts						ECTS	4		
Study programme	English Studies									
Level of study programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate		<input type="checkbox"/> Graduate		<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated		<input type="checkbox"/> Postgraduate			
Type of study programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Single major <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Double major		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> University		<input type="checkbox"/> Professional		<input type="checkbox"/> Specialized			
Year of study	<input type="checkbox"/> 1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3		<input type="checkbox"/> 4		<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
Semester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Winter <input type="checkbox"/> Summer		<input type="checkbox"/> I		<input type="checkbox"/> II		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> III		<input type="checkbox"/> IV	
			<input type="checkbox"/> VI		<input type="checkbox"/> VII		<input type="checkbox"/> VIII		<input type="checkbox"/> IX	
Status of the course	<input type="checkbox"/> Compulsory		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective course offered to students from other departments		Teaching Competencies		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
Workload	15	L	30	S		E	Internet sources for e-learning		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Location and time of instruction	Wednesday 12:00 – 15:00 IT Room, Room 143, Obala kralja Petra Krešimira IV. 2, Zadar					Language(s) in which the course is taught		English		
Course start date	1/10/2025					Course end date		23/1/2026		
Enrolment requirements	Students have to be enrolled in the 3 rd or 5 th semester of undergraduate programme of English language and literature.									
Course coordinator	Frane Malenica, PhD, Assistant Professor									
E-mail	fmalenica@unizd.hr						Consultation hours	THU 10:00 – 11:00		
Course instructor	Frane Malenica, PhD, Assistant Professor									
E-mail	fmalenica@unizd.hr						Consultation hours	THU 10:00 – 11:00		
Assistant/ Associate										
E-mail							Consultation hours			
Assistant/ Associate										
E-mail							Consultation hours			
Mode of teaching	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lectures		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seminars and workshops		<input type="checkbox"/> Exercises		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-learning		<input type="checkbox"/> Field work	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual assignments		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multimedia and network		<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory		<input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring		<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Learning outcomes	Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:									



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• demonstrate an understanding of the role and characteristics of scientific methods in linguistic research;• identify major methods for collecting textual linguistic data and distinguish between their applications;• select and apply appropriate methods for working with different types of textual data;• explain the relationships among different types of variables in the design and implementation of linguistic research;• develop a research plan, formulate research questions and hypotheses, and test those hypotheses through empirical investigation;• adhere to ethical principles in conducting linguistic research;• evaluate the appropriateness of data collection methods for specific research goals;• use linguistic corpora to collect and analyze language data.• apply suitable procedures for analyzing, summarizing, and describing textual linguistic data;• relate their own research findings to previous studies in the field;• justify methodological choices and research procedures with sound reasoning;• summarize, interpret, and assess the significance of their research results in the context of contemporary theories and models of language; and• apply acquired research skills in international academic and professional contexts.				
Learning outcomes at the Programme level	Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• apply a critical and self-critical approach in argumentation;• carry out scientific research investigations;• apply ethical principles in conducting investigations and in resolving issues independently and in a group; and• assess the importance of working in an international context.				
Assessment criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> Class attendance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preparation for class	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homework	<input type="checkbox"/> Continuous evaluation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practical work	<input type="checkbox"/> Experimental work	<input type="checkbox"/> Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Seminar
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written exam	<input type="checkbox"/> Oral exam	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
Conditions for permission to take the exam	Minimum attendance of 80% in lectures and seminars				
Exam periods	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Winter		<input type="checkbox"/> Summer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Autumn	
Exam dates	https://anglistika.unizd.hr/ispitni-rokovi			https://anglistika.unizd.hr/ispitni-rokovi	
Course description	Linguistics, as an empirical science, relies on the collection and analysis of language data, with textual data serving as one of the most frequently used sources across its many branches. This course introduces students to key methods for collecting linguistic data, with a particular focus on computer-accessible databases, for the purpose of conducting research on the English language.				



	<p>Students will gain an understanding of empirical approaches to data collection, including the identification of variables, the formulation of research questions and hypotheses, and the selection of appropriate research designs and samples. They will learn how to collect data through linguistic corpora, apply statistical methods to summarize, describe, and present findings, and address ethical considerations and other challenges common to empirical research.</p> <p>Through seminar activities, students will critically examine published studies to identify methodological choices, assess the strengths and limitations of different research designs, and evaluate techniques for gathering textual data. As part of the course requirements, students will design and carry out their own research project, applying selected methods introduced in class, and present their research design, methodological rationale, and a summary of their results in class discussions.</p>					
Course content	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction 2. Science and scientific methods, quantitative and qualitative methods, types of data 3. Types of variables (dependent/independent, numerical/categorical), variable levels, and types of measurement and scales, hypotheses 4. Stages of the research process, research questions, research designs, samples 5. Validity and reliability, ethical principles, plagiarising 6. Presenting data I – Structuring a research proposal and a research report, writing tips 7. Discussion I – choosing the topic and methods 8. Corpus research I 9. Corpus research II 10. Corpus research III 11. Discussion II – choosing the topic and methods 12. Descriptive statistics I – Frequency, cumulative frequency, percentages 13. Descriptive statistics II – Measures of central tendency, measures of dispersion 14. Mid-term I 15. Discussion III – results 					
Required reading	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biber, D. & Reppen, R. (2015). <i>English Corpus Linguistics</i>. Cambridge University Press. 2. Brezina, V. (2018). <i>Statistics in Corpus Linguistics: A Practical Guide</i> (1st ed.). Cambridge University Press. 3. Litosseliti, L. (Ed.). (2010). <i>Research methods in linguistics</i>. Continuum. 4. Podesva, R., & Sharma, D. (Eds.). (2013). <i>Research methods in linguistics</i>. Cambridge University Press. 					
Additional reading	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clark-Carter, D. (2019). <i>Quantitative psychological research: The complete student's companion</i> (4th Edition). Routledge. 2. Hatch, E. M., & Lazaraton, A. (1994). <i>The research manual: Design and statistics for applied linguistics</i>. Heinle & Heinle Publishers. 3. Johnson, K. (2008). <i>Quantitative methods in linguistics</i>. Blackwell Pub. 4. McEnery, T., & Wilson, A. (2011). <i>Corpus linguistics: An introduction</i> (2. ed., repr). Edinburgh Univ. Press. 5. Pavlović, N., & Stanojević, M. M. (2020). Znanstvena istraživanja jezika i prevođenja. Filozofski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu – FF Press. 6. Phakiti, A. (2015). <i>Experimental Research Methods in Language Learning</i>. Bloomsbury. 7. Rasinger, S. M. (2013). <i>Quantitative research in linguistics: An introduction</i> (Second Edition). Bloomsbury. 8. Wray, A., & Bloomer, A. (2006). <i>Projects in linguistics: A practical guide to researching language</i> (2nd ed). Hodder Arnold ; Distributed in the United States of America by Oxford University Press. 					
Internet sources	<p>https://www.sketchengine.eu</p> <p>https://skell.sketchengine.eu/#home?lang=en</p> <p>https://www.clarin.si/ske/#open</p> <p>https://www.english-corpora.org</p> <p>https://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/korplus/</p> <p>http://corpora.lancs.ac.uk</p> <p>https://amc-xplorer.americanmoviecorpus.net/kwic</p>					
Assessment criteria of learning outcomes	Final exam only					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Final written exam		<input type="checkbox"/> Final oral exam		<input type="checkbox"/> Final written and oral exam	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/homework	<input type="checkbox"/> Seminar paper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seminar	<input type="checkbox"/> Practical	<input type="checkbox"/> Practical work and final exam <input type="checkbox"/> other forms



	test/homework	and final exam		paper and final exam	work	
Calculation of final grade	The final grade is calculated as the sum of percentage points earned across three components: the midterm/final exam (50% of the final grade), class participation (40% of the final grade), and conducting research with a presentation of results (10% of the final grade). The midterm or final exam consists of a written test administered on a computer. Class participation includes engaging in discussions during the semester (2 × 10%) as well as preparing for seminar discussions and submitting assignments on time (20%). Conducting research and presenting results involves carrying out an independent corpus-based study using methods learned in the course and presenting the findings in the form of a presentation. This component is assessed on the correct use of data collection and analysis methods, continuous engagement with the research, and the presentation of the research results (10% of the grade). The research project and accompanying presentation must be submitted by the end of the last day of classes in the semester.					
Grading scale	<60%	% Failure (1)				
	60–69.99%	% Satisfactory (2)				
	70–79.99%	% Good (3)				
	80–89.99%	% Very good (4)				
	≥90%	% Excellent (5)				
Course evaluation procedures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student evaluations conducted by the University <input type="checkbox"/> Student evaluations conducted by the Department <input type="checkbox"/> Internal evaluation of teaching <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department meetings discussing quality of teaching and results of student evaluations <input type="checkbox"/> Other					
Note /Other	In accordance with Art. 6 of the <i>Code of Ethics</i> of the Committee for Ethics in Science and Higher Education, “the student is expected to fulfil his/her obligations honestly and ethically, to pursue academic excellence, to be civilized, respectful and free from prejudice.” According to Art. 14 of the University of Zadar's <i>Code of Ethics</i> , students are expected to “fulfil their responsibilities responsibly and conscientiously. [...] Students are obligated to safeguard the reputation and dignity of all members of the university community and the University of Zadar as a whole, to promote moral and academic values and principles. [...]” Any act constituting a violation of academic honesty is ethically prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: - various forms of fraud such as the use or possession of books, notes, data, electronic gadgets or other aids during examinations, except when permitted; - various forms of forgery such as the use or possession of unauthorised materials during the exam; impersonation and attendance at exams on behalf of other students; fraudulent study documents; forgery of signatures and grades; falsifying exam results.” All forms of unethical behaviour will result in a negative grade in the course without the possibility of compensation or repair. In case of serious violations the <i>Rulebook on Disciplinary Responsibility of Students at the University of Zadar</i> will be applied. In electronic communications only messages coming from known addresses with a first and a last name, and which are written in the Croatian standard and appropriate academic style, will be responded to. This course uses the Merlin system for e-learning, so students are required to have an AAI account. /delete if necessary/					