Academic course description – Example

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| MASTER ’S PROGRAMME**AMERICAN STUDIES**1ST YEAR OF STUDY, 1ST SEMESTER |

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| **Course title** | **AMERICAN LINGUISTICS** |
| Course code |  |
| Course type | full attendance |
| Course level | 2nd cycle (master’s degree) |
| Year of study, semester | 1st year of study, 1st semester |
| Number of ECTS credits | 5 |
| Number of hours per week | 2 (1 lecture hour + 1 seminar hour) |
| Name of lecture holder | CUTITARU LAURA CARMEN |
| Name of seminar holder | CUTITARU LAURA CARMEN |
| Prerequisites | Advanced level of English  |
| A | **General and course-specific competences** |
|  | **General competences**: Everything that is taught here can be further extrapolated towards the larger domain of human knowledge in general, since the final aim of our analysis is language as a product of environment and biology. The basic concepts in American linguistics taught during this course find their illustration in texts from domains intersecting linguistics (psychology, neurology, sociology). Thus, students are provided with instruments that enable raising their analytical perspective from the concrete to the abstract (from the linguistic to the philosophical). **Course-specific competences**:* Students will master a specific academic vocabulary.
* Students will find out the latest in language workings within the human brain.
* Students will acquire a deep perspective on language by studying its hidden aspects (psychic and neural bases).
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| B | **Learning outcomes** |
|  | * Improved and elevated vocabulary.
* Fine quality information.
* Better understanding of language as a social product due to analyses from multiple perspectives.
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| C | **Lecture content** |
|  | American Linguistics Timeline. Mentalism versus Structuralism. Design Features of Language. The Chomskyan Revolution; Psycholinguistics. F.L.A. Bilingualism. Speech Deficits.Language and Cognition: The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis and Neo-Whorfianism. |
| D | **Recommended reading for lectures** |
|  | * Cuțitaru, Laura C**. Elements of Psychology and Pathology of Language**. Iaşi: Editura Universitas XXI, 2007.
* Cuțitaru, Laura C**. Creierul gramatical**. Iași: Editura Junimea, 2017.
* Field, John. ***Psycholinguistics*.** Routledge: London & New York, 2004.
* Newmeyer, Frederick J. (ed.) ***Linguistics: The Cambridge Survey***, vol. III ***Language: Psychological and Biological Aspects***. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1988.
* Newmeyer, Frederick J. (ed.). ***Linguistic Theory: Extensions and Implications.*** Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1988.
* Smolinski, Frank (ed.) ***Landmarks of American Language and Linguistics***, vol.1, Washington: U.S.I.A., 1993.
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| E | **Seminar content** |
|  | * Animal Communication.
* Language and Chimps.
* Sign Language.
* Language and Feral Children.
* Speech Disorders.
* Influence of Mother Tongue on Cognition (The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis).
* Influence of a Foreign Language on Cognition (Neo-Whorfianism).
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| F | **Recommended reading for seminars** |
|  | * Curtiss, Susan. ***Genie. A Psycholinguistic Study of a Modern-day Wild Child***, Cambridge: Academic Press, 1977.
* Chomsky, N., Fitch, T.W., Hauser, M. D. *The Faculty of Language: What Is It, Who Has It, and How Did It Evolve?* In ***Science*** no. 5598 Nov., 2002.
* Dingwall, W.O. – „*The evolution of human communicative behavior*” (p.274) şi R.A.Demers – „*Linguistics and animal communication*” (p.314) în ***Linguistics: The Cambridge Survey*** (ed.Fr.J.Newmeyer), Cambridge UP, 1988, vol.III.
* Premack, David – „*Is Language the Key to Human Intelligence*?” în ***Science*** 16 Jan.2004, vol.303 no.5656, pp.318-320.
* Sapir, Edward. *The Status of Linguistics as a Science.* In (ed.) Smolinski, Frank. ***Landmarks of American Language and Linguistics***, vol. I, Washington: U.S.I.A.,1993.
* Whorf, B.L. ***Language, Thought and Reality***, MIT Press, 1956.
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| G | **Education style** |
| learning and teaching methods | Lecturing and interactive activities. |
| assessment methods | Ongoing evaluation and final test. |
| Language of instruction | English |