Course title: Grammatical and Linguistic Theories: *Cognitive Approaches to English*

Course code: MCEN0931

Type of course: compulsory

Level of course: MA

Year of study: 2nd

Semester: 3rd

Number of ECTS credits allocated: 7

Name of the lecturer: Rodica Albu

Course objective: Through the study of the thought-language relation that makes it possible for human beings to express their ideas through a language (English in this particular case), students will get acquainted with the basic principles and methods of cognitive linguistics as reflected in the study of aspects of English semantics and syntax. The newly acquired theoretical knowledge will enable them to practically explore the exceptional abilities of the human minds to structure, innovate and create.

Course contents: The cognitive frame. Structural, functional and cognitive linguistics. Iconicity, indexicality, symbolicity. Conceptualizing and construing operations. Categories, concepts and senses. The prototypical model of categorial structures. Dynamic construal of meaning. Cognitive approaches in lexical semantics: from words to senses (semasiologie), radial networks, from concepts to words (onomasiology); taxonomies. Cognitive approaches to grammatical forms – from idioms to "construction grammar". Significant morphological structures. Grammar – combining concepts. Cross-cultural semantics: language, culture, thought. Applications: cognitive approaches to multiple translation samples: "concept maps" – individual and group projects (using the Win Esquema application).

Recommended reading: Croft, William, D. Alan Cruse, *Cognitive Linguistics*, Cambridge University Press, 2004; Radden, Günter, René Driven, *Cognitive English Grammar*, John Benjamins Publishing Companz, Amsterdam-Philadelphia, 2007; Spencer-Oatez, Helen, *Culturally speaking. Managing Rapport through Talk across Cultures*, Continuum, London / New Work, 2000; Sperber, Dan, Deirdre Wilson, *Relevance. Communication and Cognition*, Basil Blackwell, London, 1986; Wierbicka, Anna, *English. Meaning and Culture,* OUP, 2006

Teaching methods: academic lectures, brainstorming, students' presentations, individual and group in-class work; interactive orientation of lectures and seminars

Assessment methods: active participation in class, research project, final written examination

Language of instruction: English