

27928 - Semantics and Pragmatism of Spanish

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 27928 - Semantics and Pragmatism of Spanish

Faculty / School: 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras

Degree: 426 - Degree in Classics

579 - Degree in Classics

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 2

Semester: First semester

Subject type: Compulsory

Module:

1. General information

The aim of this subject is to provide students with the strategies and knowledge necessary to critically evaluate the main problems posed by the study of meaning (lexical and grammatical) in Spanish. In addition -and in the field of pragmatics- it is intended to reflect on the analysis of the processes of production and interpretation of meaning in the use of our language.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda:

- 4: Quality Education.
- 5: Gender Equality.
- 10: Reduction of Inequalities
- 16: Peace, Justice and Strong institutions
- 17: Alliances to Achieve Objectives.

An advanced instrumental command of Spanish is required. Non-native students must have at least a B2 level of Spanish.

2. Learning results

In order to pass this subject, the students shall demonstrate they has acquired the following results:

Acquisition of an overview of the characteristics and structure of the lexicon.

Knowledge of the main problems involved in the relationship between syntax and semantics.

Knowledge of the factors that shape communicative situations and their implications in the encoding and interpretation of texts.

Acquisition of the most important lexical analysis techniques, from Structural Semantics to current models.

Identification of the mechanisms and strategies for presenting information and structuring discourse.

3. Syllabus

1. The study of meaning and its types.
2. Lexical semantics (I). Lexical meaning.
3. Lexical semantics (II). Semantic relations.
4. Grammatical semantics (I). Grammatical meaning: definition and treatment.
5. Grammatical semantics (II). Semantic functions.
6. The place of pragmatics. Contextual meaning. Pragmatics and other linguistic disciplines.
7. Basic concepts of pragmatics. Sentence and statement. Sender and receiver. What has been said and implied.
8. Study of the main trends in linguistic Pragmatics.
9. Aspects of pragmatics applied to Spanish: Structure of the conversation. Discourse markers. Negation and interrogation. Verbal courtesy.

4. Academic activities

The aim is to encourage students to think critically about linguistic facts in their semantic and pragmatic aspects. Theoretical and practical classes are combined. Practices are very important both classroom-based and those devoted to complementary activities.

Classes and face-to-face activities. The teacher will explain the necessary theoretical foundations. Student participation will be encouraged, so that the theoretical presentations will be exemplified with practices and exercises aimed at fixing the contents.

Non-face-to-face activities The students will have to carry out the practices proposed in class and analyse some complementary readings.

5. Assessment system

First call

a) Continuous assessment system

Two mid-term exams:

- MIDTERM EXAM 1 (50% final grade), related to the contents of Semantics of Spanish, which will consist of:

1. WRITTEN TEST ON THE THEORETICAL PROGRAM (50%).

2. WRITTEN TEST OF PRACTICAL APPLICATION (50%).

- EXAM 2 (50% final grade), related to the contents of Pragmatics of Spanish, which will consist of:

1. WRITTEN TEST ON THE THEORETICAL PROGRAM (50%).

2. WRITTEN TEST OF PRACTICAL APPLICATION (50%).

In addition to the degree of correctness of the answers, clarity of exposition, idiomatic correctness and adequacy to the requirements of academic language will be assessed.

A minimum of 4 out of 10 on each of the two tests in each midterm exam is required for averaging.

b) Global assessment test (on the date established in the academic calendar)

1. WRITTEN TEST ON THE THEORETICAL PROGRAM (50%). Questionnaire and development of topics included in the syllabus.

2. WRITTEN TEST OF PRACTICAL APPLICATION (50%). Solving practical cases.

In addition to the degree of correctness of the answers, clarity of exposition, idiomatic correctness and adequacy to the requirements of academic language will be assessed.

A minimum grade of 4 out of 10 in each of the two tests is required for averaging.

Second call

Global evaluation test (on the date set in the academic calendar):

Identical to the global evaluation test of the first call.