

Veranstalter	Prof. Dr. Günter Radden
Thema	Metaphor, Metonymy and Conceptual Blending [ENG-4, ENG-4a, ENG-10, ENG-11, AA7, AA9, LAA8, LAA11, AA-WB]
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-515
Zeit	Do 14-16
Raum	Ü35-11041
Beginn	05.04.18

Course Description:

Metaphor and metonymy are traditionally seen as figures of speech, i.e., as a matter of language. The cognitive approach to language has, however, shown that metaphor and metonymy are conceptual in nature and their use in language is motivated by general cognitive processes. For example, we understand LIFE metaphorically as a JOURNEY. Thus, when a baby is born, the birth announcement will tell us that “a baby has arrived”, and when life “comes to an end”, the pitiful person has “departed from this world”. In metaphor, conceptual entities from one domain are projected onto another domain, and their conceptual blending gives rise to emergent meanings. Thus, the metaphor of LIFE AS A JOURNEY might make us see life as predetermined. In metonymy, one conceptual entity is projected onto another conceptual entity within the same domain. For example, a producer and their product belong to the same conceptual domain so that the PRODUCER can metonymically stand for the PRODUCT. Our familiarity with this metonymic relation allows us to understand that the noun *Shakespeare* in the sentence “Shakespeare is on the top shelf” in all likelihood refers to a book of Shakespeare’s plays.

Metaphor and metonymy provide a powerful and flexible means of extending our conceptual world. They are common, ubiquitous processes that usually escape our awareness. Conceptual metaphor theory has been inspired by Lakoff and Johnson’s classic *Metaphors We Live by* (1980), which all participants should be familiar with. Conceptual metonymy has only recently received greater attention. The goal of this course is to give a balanced view of both cognitive processes. The success of the course depends on the participants’ readiness to explore a new field of study. They will be rewarded by gaining fresh insights into the nature of our human mind.

Leistungskontrolle:

Students who wish to take this course for credit are expected to

- (i) attend the course regularly throughout the whole term
- (ii) and give a presentation that serves as a basis for discussion.

(iii) Term papers are to be handed in by September 30, 2018.

Literatur:

Benczes, R., A. Barcelona and F. J. Ruiz de Mendoza Ibáñez (Eds.). 2011. *Defining Metonymy in Cognitive Linguistics: Towards a Consensus View*. Amsterdam & Philadelphia: Benjamins.

Fauconnier, G. and M. Turner. 2008. *The Way We Think: Conceptual Blending and the Mind's Hidden Complexities*. Basic Books.

Kövecses, Z. 2002. *Metaphor: A Practical Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Lakoff, G. and M. Johnson. 1980. *Metaphors We Live by*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Littlemore, J. 2015. *Metonymy: Hidden Shortcuts in Language, Thought and Communication*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Panther, K.-U. and G. Radden (Eds.). 1999. *Metonymy in Language and Thought*. Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins.