

Veranstalter:	<b>Steffen Schaub, M.A.</b>
Modul:	<b>English Corpus Linguistics</b> [AA7, AA9, ENG04, ENG10, ENG11, ENGAGE M01a, ENGAGE M02, LAA11, LAA8]
Art der Veranstaltung:	<b>Seminar II</b>
Veranstaltungsnummer:	<b>53-516</b>
Zeit:	<b>2st. Fr 10-12</b>
Raum:	<b>(online)</b>
Beginn:	<b>09.04.2021</b>

### **Description**

In this course, you will learn how to analyse language using corpora. Corpora are large, electronic collections of natural language data. With corpora, researchers and language practitioners can search for linguistic patterns, compare the language use of different groups of speakers, and even track diachronic change in language. Ever since their first emergence some 60 years ago, corpora have grown considerably in size, with the largest of them containing several billions of words. Modern corpora have become powerful tools that can aid in research, teaching and practical language applications.

In the first part of the course, you will be introduced to basic principles of corpus-linguistic research, including types and properties of corpora, corpus design principles, essential tools and techniques, and the basic procedure of planning and conducting a corpus-linguistic research project. In the second part of the course, we will practice corpus linguistics by conducting small quantitative case studies on English from different areas of linguistic interest, ranging from lexical to grammatical, from synchronic to diachronic, and incorporating various sociolinguistic perspectives (such as comparing different varieties of English or the language of different age groups).

Participants must have completed an *Introduction to Linguistics* and should generally not shy away from using a computer and acquainting themselves with unfamiliar software and web interfaces. Background in programming and statistics is helpful, but not a requirement.

### **Credit**

Participants will choose and develop their own corpus-linguistic project over the course of the semester. Progress will be monitored through small, goal-directed assignments (choosing a topic, formulating a research question, writing and reading, finding a suitable corpus, etc). For credit (Prüfungsleistung), students are expected to write a term paper on their corpus research project.

### **Meetings**

The course will be held online. We will meet in video conferences (on Zoom) during the course time listed above. All course materials and links will be provided in an OpenOlat course. The link to the course will be sent via E-Mail (STINE) after the course registration period. The course will be held in English.

### **Textbooks**

The following textbooks will serve as the primary reading in this course. Participants are encouraged to download the books prior to the course start:

- Lindquist & Levin. 2018. *Corpus linguistics and the description of English*. EUP. (available as e-book from Stabi UHH)
- Stefanowitsch. 2020. *Corpus Linguistics: A guide to the methodology*. Lang Sci Press. (free download: <https://langsci-press.org/catalog/book/148>)

Sprechstunden im Semester:	<b>s. Sprechstundenliste</b>
Sprechstunden in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	<b>s. Sprechstundenliste</b>