Veranstalter:	Prof. Dr. Thomas Berg
Veranstaltungstitel:	Language and Thought
	[ENG-4a/a, AA-V1ab, AA-V2ab, ENG-10, ENG-11, AA7, AA9, LAA8, LAA11, ENGAGE-M1, ENGAGE-M2, AA-W, AA-WB]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-515
Zeit:	2st. Mi 16-18
Raum:	Phil 1269
Beginn:	19.10.2016

Course description:

This course addresses one of the most fundamental, if not the most fundamental question that the study of language(s) raises: does language influence our thinking (cognition), our feelings (emotion) and our being (essence) tout court? This question is as interesting as it is elusive. And yet, great strides have been made in recent years in providing fragments of an answer. In particular, cross-linguistic experimentation has proven highly fruitful. While a comprehensive, definitive answer is not in the offing and perhaps beyond reach, the available pieces of evidence suggest that different languages lead their speakers to think differently.

This course will cover several fields including psycholinguistics, cognitive linguistics, language acquisition and bilingualism. Topics dealt with in class include the conceptualization of time, orientation in space, gender and sex, and colour perception and discrimination among many others. The course is open to students who are not afraid of looking at other languages and who enjoy reading and thinking hard. It is strongly recommended that participants have read either Deutscher (2011) or Schramm & Wüstenhagen (2015) before the beginning of term.

Deutscher, Guy (2011): Through the looking glass. Why the world looks different in other languages. London: Random House.

McWhorter, John H. (2014): *The language hoax. Why the world looks the same in any language.* Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Schramm, Stefanie & Claudia Wüstenhagen (2015): Das Alphabet des Denkens. Wie Sprache unsere Gedanken und Gefühle prägt. Reinbek bei Hamburg: Rowohlt.

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	Tba
Sprechstunde in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	Tba