

General aims of the course

One of the main objectives of the present BA seminar is to provide students with a working knowledge of some basic concepts in linguistics and to give them a solid grounding in standard terminology which individual branches of linguistics (morphology, phonology, syntax, semantics, etc.) make heavy use of and on which linguistics is essentially based. Special emphasis will be placed on those aspects of the English language which are directly connected with and potentially relevant to the subjects students choose and work on in order to successfully complete their BA theses.

The subjects students are allowed to choose

Subjects which students are allowed/encouraged to choose include (contrastive) English-(Polish) phonetics and phonology, (contrastive) English-(Polish) pronunciation, vocalic and consonantal systems of English, differences between British and American accents, English idiomatic expressions, English multi-word verbs, contemporary grammatical system of English (with a wide range of topics to choose from) and English linguistics in general also with elements of the history of the English language. Students are basically advised to choose topics which are relatively easy to research (availability of materials, level of difficulty) but most of all they should pick topics they are genuinely interested in. Here are some sample titles

- 1) English and Polish vowels and consonants –Their description, distribution and pronunciation
- 2) Phonetic transcription used in general and specialised monolingual English dictionaries- Description and comparison
- 3) Standard British English diphthongs and their American counterparts – Description and comparison
- 4) The major regional differences within British English accents- Description and comparison
- 5) The major regional differences within American English accents- Description and comparison
- 6) Expressing time relations in English and Polish - Description and comparison
- 7) English and Polish prepositions- Their use, distribution and comparison
- 8) Countable and uncountable nouns in English and Polish- A comparative study of grammatical forms that occur in both languages
- 9) Lexical differences between British and American dialects –Description and comparison
- 10) English Phrasal and prepositional verbs - A study based on semantic and syntactic differences between the two groups of verbs
- 11) English and Polish idiomatic expressions –A comparative study based on their structure and meanings

Students must remember however, that the above list is in no way complete or exhaustive and that it can be modified according to the needs and preferences of an individual student.

Course requirements and bibliography

As part of their BA program students are supposed to periodically prepare (short) presentations on given aspects of their theses and on topics related to linguistics as such. They will have to submit parts of their theses to the supervisor at the designated time and consult their content as the writing of the theses progress. Students will also take tests on what has been discussed during their BA seminars.

The bibliography section includes all main (course)books and dictionaries which are indispensable in preparing and working on the theses. However, as the need arises the list may be expanded with additional materials suggested by the supervisor during individual tutorials with the students. It is especially true of contrastive English-Polish papers which have been released periodically at the UAM English department. Most of the papers and articles are available for download free of charge and without having to register.

Here's the link for the website http://wa.amu.edu.pl/psicl/Back_issues

Essential bibliography

Books and dictionaries dealing with phonetics and phonology

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- 12 Clark,J. & C. Yallop. 1995². *An introduction to phonetics and phonology*. Cambridge: Basil Blackwell.
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- 23 Kreidler,C.W. 1989. *The pronunciation of English. A course book in phonology*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
- 24 Krzeszowski,T. P. 1968. *An outline of American English phonetics*. Warszawa: PWN.
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- 31 Ogden,R. 2009. *An introduction to English phonetics*. Edinburgh: EUP
- 32 Pullum,G. & Ladusaw,W. 1996. *Phonetic symbol guide*. University of Chicago Press.
- 33 Reszkiewicz,A. 1981. *Correct your English pronunciation*. Warszawa: PWN.
- 34 Roach,P. 2000. [*A little encyclopedia of phonetics*](#).
- 35 Roach,P. 2019. *English phonetics and phonology*. Cambridge: The University Press.
- 36 Sobkowiak,W. & J. Szpyra. 1989. *Workbook in English phonetics and phonology*. Poznań: AMU Press.
- 37 Sobkowiak,W. & J. Szpyra. 1995. *Workbook in English phonetics for Polish students of English*. Poznań: Nakom.

38 Sobkowiak,W. & J. Szpyra. 2001. *Workbook in English phonetics for Polish students of English*. Lublin: Wydawnictwo UMCS.

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41 Trask,R.L. 1995. *Dictionary of phonetics and phonology*. London: Routledge.

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