**German communicative strategies**

## Prof. Laura Balbiani

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to examine the main types of texts (argumentative, persuasive, prescriptive, narrative texts, etc.) and their corresponding textual genres in order to illustrate the different written communication strategies, with a focus on the field of economics, tourism, politics, international relations. Furthermore, it aims to provide students with the foundations of text linguistics and stylistic analysis.

At the end of the Course, students will be able to identify and describe the different types of texts on the basis of their linguistic peculiarities, as well as the aspects related to cohesion and coherence and the structural elements characterising the different textual genres, in view of a more effective production and reception of specialised texts.

***COURSE CONTENT***

*Texttypen und Textsorten des Deutschen*

The course aims to explore the different types of texts and their role in written communication, starting from a representative sample of texts taken from the field of economics and international relations. The first part of the Course will introduce linguistic-theoretical and methodological aspects (definition of the concepts of *Texttyp*, *Textsorte*, *Textmuster*; the most important models for their classification; textual functions). The second part will examine the peculiarities of the different types of texts and their concrete realisation through the analysis of and the commentary on a selection of texts taken from the Internet and specialised magazines.

In particular, the course will analyse the following topics:

– text types and genres, definition and the most important models for their classification

– the diachronic development of text types

– the different types of functions (narrative, informative, prescriptive texts, etc.)

– relevant textual genres in specialised communication

– text coherence and cohesion

– macro- and microstructural elements

– the relationship between text and image in specialised communication.

***READING LIST***

H. Bußmann, *Lexikon der Sprachwissenschaft,* Kröner, Stuttgart, 1990.

C. Fandrych / Maria Thurmair, *Textsorten im Deutschen. Linguistische Analysen aus sprachdidaktischer Sicht*, Stauffenburg, Tübingen 2011.

W. Heinemann, *Textsorte – Textmuster – Texttyp*. In: K. Brinker et al. (Hrsg.), *Text- und Gesprächslinguistik. Ein internationales Handbuch zeitgenössischer Forschung*, de Gruyter, Berlin 2000 (HSK 16/1), p. 507-523.

Further information on the reading list will be made available during the course.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course, taking place during semester 2, will be characterised by frontal lectures held in class (in German) based on the active participation of students.

In addition, the course will include 20 hours of practical activities, held by Dr. Lucia Salvato (with their own reading list), in which students will have to carry out stylistic and textual analysis exercises.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam in German, to be taken after the German language exams (oral and written). The final mark will result from the weighted average between the results of the German language oral and written exams.

During the exam, students will be assessed on the theoretical and practical knowledge acquired during the course, their language-communication skills, and the ability to analyse and present meaningful arguments.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students are invited to check on a regular basis the communications and the teaching material that will be made available on *Blackboard*.In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

Students should have good receptive and productive skills in German; the knowledge of text linguistics might be useful, but not essential.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.