**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. The first part of the Course will introduce linguistic-theoretical and methodological aspects (definition of the most important models for their classification; textual functions); the second part will examine the peculiarities of the different genres 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***

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

H. Bußmann, *Lexikon der Sprachwissenschaft,* Kröner, Stuttgart, 2008.

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

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course, taking place during semester 2, will be characterised by frontal lectures held in class (in German) with the support of slide show presentations, alternated with supervised practical activities, both as individuals and in groups, based on the active participation of students. Teaching materials will be uploaded to the *Blackboard* platform on a regular basis.

The course is accompanied by 20 hours of practical classes which will explore the topics covered during the course, with a particular focus on diachronic analysis, and the development of project work on a specific textual genre.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam in German in which students will present their project, 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 (with a focus on the use of specific terminology), and the ability to analyse and present meaningful arguments. If there are a large number of students registered for the exam, the test may be conducted in written form with open questions.

***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*;further information will be provided during lectures.

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.