London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership

Advanced Research Methods in Social Sciences

Course Code & Title	**LISS378 Introduction to Corpus Linguistics**				
Convenor(s)	Dr Robbie Love				
Institution	Aston University		**Department**	LISS DTP	
Academic Year	2023-24		**Term**	Spring	
Number of sessions	5	**Research Platform**	• Digital & Archival Research Methods (DAR)	**Length of Session(s)**	3 hours

Day, Date	**Start : End**	**Room Location**
Friday 26th January Friday 2nd February Friday 9th February Friday 16th February Friday 23rd February	13:00-16:00	Online

<mark>**Enrolment Links:**</mark>	Available to book on SkillsForge from **Tuesday 12th December 2023**. Click to log in and register: https://training.kcl.ac.uk/kcl/#he/dev/eventDetails,;em,providerCode=LISS,providerOrgAlias=kcl,number=378,; Questions? Visit our Training FAQ here: Frequently Asked Questions - LISS DTP (liss-dtp.ac.uk)

Course Description:

A corpus is a digital collection of authentic examples of language, sampled so as to be representative of the language used in a particular communicative context. Corpus linguistics involves the investigation of corpora using computational techniques to combine quantitative and qualitative approaches to linguistic analysis. Corpus linguistics is highly portable and is routinely used in a range of interdisciplinary and applied contexts in linguistics, humanities, social sciences and beyond.

This course provides an introduction to corpus linguistics, providing training in both the analysis of corpus data as well as the design and preparation of corpora for analysis. A range of core analytical techniques will be introduced, and participants will have the opportunity to apply these techniques to their own data as relevant to their research interests. Furthermore, participants will learn good principles in preparing and formatting corpus texts and learn how to gather texts from a range of sources.

Learning outcomes

By the end of this course, students should:

1. Demonstrate the application of foundational concepts and methods in corpus linguistics
2. Apply key theoretical and practical considerations in building a corpus for linguistic analysis
3. Use corpus software to conduct a corpus-based research task

Provisional course structure

Below is a provisional course structure, which will be adapted/confirmed during the first session in order to take into account the needs and interests of participants.

1. Principles and applications of corpus linguistics
2. Frequency and keyness analysis
3. Concordance and collocation analysis
4. Corpus construction: written texts
5. Corpus construction: spoken texts

Reading List:

Before attending please read the following chapters from O'Keeffe & McCarthy (2022) *The Routledge Handbook of Corpus Linguistics (2nd edition)*:

- Anthony, L. (2022). 'What can corpus software do?' In A. O'Keeffe and M. McCarthy (eds). The Routledge Handbook of Corpus Linguistics (2nd edition). New York: Routledge, pp. 103-125.
- McEnery, T., & Brookes, G. (2022). 'Building a written corpus: what are the basics?' In A. O'Keeffe and M. McCarthy (eds). The Routledge Handbook of Corpus Linguistics (2nd edition). New York: Routledge, pp. 35-47.
- Knight, D., & Adolphs, S. (2022). 'Building a spoken corpus: what are the basics?' In A. O'Keeffe and M. McCarthy (eds). The Routledge Handbook of Corpus Linguistics (2nd edition). New York: Routledge, pp. 21-34.

Eligibility:

This course is likely to be of most interest to students on LISS Pathways 6 (Education, Mind & Society) and 7 (Linguistics, Media & Culture), but it is open to all students who are working with (or plan to work with) digital textual data.

Pre-course preparation:

Introductory reading (see reading list).

Number of students:

Minimum number required to run: 5

Maximum number of places available: 15