

**Questions of Comparative Grammar**

Code: 100688  
 ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500243 Classics	OT	3	0
2500243 Classics	OT	4	0
2500245 English Studies	OT	3	0
2500245 English Studies	OT	4	0
2500247 Catalan Language and Literature	OT	3	0
2500247 Catalan Language and Literature	OT	4	0
2500248 Spanish Language and Literature	OT	3	0
2500248 Spanish Language and Literature	OT	4	0
2501801 Catalan and Spanish	OT	3	0
2501801 Catalan and Spanish	OT	4	0
2501902 English and Catalan	OT	3	0
2501902 English and Catalan	OT	4	0
2501907 English and Classics	OT	3	0
2501907 English and Classics	OT	4	0
2501910 English and Spanish	OT	3	0
2501910 English and Spanish	OT	4	0
2501913 English and French	OT	3	0
2501913 English and French	OT	4	0

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**Use of Languages**

Principal working language: catalan (cat)  
 Some groups entirely in English: No  
 Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes  
 Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

**Other comments on languages**

It is highly advisable that students can read texts on linguistics in English

## Prerequisites

Students must be studying a degree related to language.

## Objectives and Contextualisation

In this course several phenomena, mostly phonological and morphological, will be reviewed, from Romance languages and other families; the course will also go over the analyses that have been proposed in the last decades to account for them.

## Competences

### Classics

- Analysing the lexical, phonetic, phonological, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic properties of natural languages.
- Applying the various analytical tools to different types of linguistic data.
- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Understanding the biological, cognitive, and cultural foundations of human language and the main contemporary grammatical structures.

### English Studies

- Analysing the lexical, phonetic, phonological, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic properties of natural languages.
- Applying the various analytical tools to different types of linguistic data.
- Develop critical thinking and reasoning and knowing how to communicate effectively both in your mother tongue and in other languages.
- Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Understanding the biological, cognitive and cultural foundations of human language and the main contemporary grammatical models.

### Catalan Language and Literature

- Analysing the lexical, phonetic, phonological, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic properties of natural languages.
- Applying the various analytical tools to different types of linguistic data.
- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
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- Understanding the biological, cognitive, and cultural foundations of human language and the main contemporary grammatical structures.

### Spanish Language and Literature

- Analysing the lexical, phonetic, phonological, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic properties of natural languages.
- Applying the various analytical tools to different types of linguistic data.

- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Understanding the biological, cognitive, and cultural foundations of human language and the main contemporary grammatical structures.

#### Catalan and Spanish

- Analysing the lexical, phonetic, phonological, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic properties of natural languages.
- Develop critical thinking and reasoning and knowing how to communicate effectively both in your mother tongue and in other languages.
- Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Understanding the biological, cognitive and cultural foundations of human language and the main contemporary grammatical models.

#### English and Catalan

- Analysing the lexical, phonetic, phonological, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic properties of natural languages.
- Applying the various analytical tools to different types of linguistic data.
- Develop critical thinking and reasoning and knowing how to communicate effectively both in your mother tongue and in other languages.
- Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Understanding the biological, cognitive and cultural foundations of human language and the main contemporary grammatical models.

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- Understanding the biological, cognitive and cultural foundations of human language and the main contemporary grammatical models.

English and French

- Analysing the lexical, phonetic, phonological, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic properties of natural languages.
- Applying the various analytical tools to different types of linguistic data.
- Develop critical thinking and reasoning and knowing how to communicate effectively both in your mother tongue and in other languages.
- Students can apply the knowledge to their own work or vocation in a professional manner and have the powers generally demonstrated by preparing and defending arguments and solving problems within their area of study.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills in order to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Understanding the biological, cognitive and cultural foundations of human language and the main contemporary grammatical models.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Accurately drawing up normative texts.
2. Applying the results presented in specialised articles to the analysis of similar or related phenomena.
3. Appropriately use the different available formal and technical resources.
4. Appropriately using the different available formal and technical resources.
5. Identify main ideas and express them with secondary and linguistic correctness.
6. Identify the main and secondary ideas and express them with linguistic correctness.
7. Identifying main and supporting ideas and expressing them with linguistic correctness.
8. Identifying the main and secondary ideas and expressing them with linguistic correctness.
9. Preparing an oral and written discourse in the corresponding language in a proper and organized way.
10. Solve complex linguistic analysis at any level and with the appropriate tools.
11. Solve problems autonomously.
12. Solving complex problems of linguistic analysis in any level with the appropriate tools.
13. Solving problems autonomously.
14. Summarising acquired knowledge about the origin and transformations experienced in its several fields of study.

## Content

1. Introduction. Issues posed by comparative grammar in phonology and morphology.
2. Theoretical frameworks and grammatical comparison: Optimality Theory and Distributed Morphology.
3. Analysis of phenomena related to syllabic structure: patterns of syllabification and repair strategies; truncation phenomena.
4. Constraints on identical elements in phonology.
5. Constraints on identical elements in morphology.
6. Other phenomena at the interface between phonology and morphology.
7. The interaction of phonology and morphology with syntax.

## Methodology

There will be a combination of lectures with some exercises, discussion and analysis of phenomena and in-class presentations.

## Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures, discussion sessions, presentations	52.5	2.1	2, 1, 9
Type: Supervised			
Programmed mentoring	15	0.6	2, 5, 8, 6, 12, 10, 14
Type: Autonomous			
Autonomous work	70	2.8	2, 9, 4, 3, 5, 8, 7, 6, 13, 11

## Assessment

The evaluation of the course will be based on the following activities:

- (a) Active participation in class and delivery of two exercises within the deadline that will be established. 10%
- (b) Individual presentation of a phenomenon belonging to different languages or varieties. 30%
- (c) Written essay based on the individual presentation. 30%
- (d) Written test: 30%

Students have the right to resit or make up evaluated work provided they have submitted a minimum of two thirds of the formally assessed work which makes up the final grade and who have an average between 3.5 and 4.9 according to the evaluation criteria. The highest mark that can be obtained in this case is 5.

Activities (a) and (b) are excluded from resitting.

The dates of course activities and their revision will be announced through Moodle.

A mark of "no available" (N/A Not Assessable) will be awarded if a student fails to hand in more than 25% of the assessed work used to calculate the final mark.

In cases of plagiarism, identity theft and others in an evaluation activity, a mark of '0' will be given. If such a case is detected over more than one of the evaluable activities, the final mark of the course will be '0'. In these cases the student does not have the right to resitting or making up work.

## Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Delivery of exercises	10%	3	0.12	2, 1, 9, 4, 3, 5, 8, 7, 6, 12, 10, 13, 11, 14
Presentation of a topic by each student	30%	1.5	0.06	2, 1, 9, 4, 3, 5, 8, 7, 6, 12, 10, 13, 11, 14
Written essay	30%	5	0.2	2, 1, 9, 4, 3, 5, 8, 7, 6, 14

## **Bibliography**

McCarthy, John J. 2008. *Doing Optimality Theory. Applying Theory to Data*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Harley, Heidi; Rolf Noyer. 1999. Distributed Morphology. *Glott International*4: 3-9.

[OREL] *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Linguistics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

van Oostendorp, Marc; Colin J. Ewen; Elizabeth Hume; Keren Rice. 2011. *The Blackwell Companion to Phonology*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Specific references will be given at the beginning of each topic.