English 7/8508: Corpus Linguistics

Corpus Linguists conduct computerized or computer-assisted language research through an emphasis on corpora, which are large, carefully constructed, and principled collections of naturally occurring language events. Corpus Linguistic studies make use of both qualitative and qualitative methods to address questions of language use patterns, with implications for linguistic theory, language education, and a considerable number of interdisciplinary and real-world applications.

This course emphasizes the methodological considerations involved in corpus construction, annotation, and analysis within a broader picture of linguistic theory and application. Students will develop an understanding of the motivations and affordances of a corpus-based approach to language analysis, familiarity with freely available corpora (e.g., the Corpus of Contemporary American English and related tools), basic skills in corpus compilation and annotation (e.g., part-of-speech tagging, syntactic parsing), and an understanding of corpus-based analysis at lexical/phraseological levels. Applications for research and language teaching will also be considered. No background in corpus-linguistics is required.

No required textbook