



Compulsory Online Course

“Research Methodology in European Languages and Literatures”

(summer term 2026)

Session 1: 22.01.2026

Lecturer: Dr. Thomas Schmidtgall

Agenda

- 1) Welcome and Warm-up
- 2) Content
- 3) General organizational aspects
- 4) Course calendar
- 5) Assessment
- 6) Rules of etiquette in online sessions
- 7) Contact
- 8) Questions



1) Welcome and Warm-up (I)

Today's lecturer: Let me introduce myself...

I am Thomas Schmidtgall and I...

- ...studied French Cultural Studies and Intercultural Communication, Spanish Linguistics as well as Business Administration in Paris, Saarbrücken and Barcelona
- ...have PhD in cultural studies/intercultural communication
- ...work at the Friedrich-Schiller-University of Jena in the area of strategic internationalization and European cooperation.
- ...my research and publications address 9/11, trauma and collective memory as well as intercultural communication in media and intercultural cooperation
- ...and coordinate this online course

1) Welcome and Warm-up (II)

Activity „One object, one word“:

- “Please turn on your camera.
Pick **one object** that is close to you right now (on your desk, in your room).
- Show it briefly on camera and say **one word** that describes how you feel at the start of this course.”

2) Content

- European oriented online course
- Multidisciplinary approaches to and different perspectives on various research methodologies in modern European languages and literatures.
- Focus: linguistic, literary, cultural studies
- Objective: developing a holistic understanding
- Content:
 - theoretical and practical knowledge for the contrastive and comparative research into European languages, literatures, cultures and societies.
 - methods of analysis that allow the interpretation of linguistic and literary texts

3) Organizational Aspects

- Glocal Campus
- Individual Management of each session by the respective lectures
- Separate Zoom-Links (on Glocal Campus and via Email)
- Academic quarter practice (*cum tempore*): e.g. 15-17 in reality means 15h15 – 16h45
- Academic profiles
- Language: English
- Presentation of work/evaluation in English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, German, Romanian

4) Course Calendar and Lecturers(I)

University	Week	Session	Date	Topic	Lecturer
JENA	1	1	Thursday, 22.01	Introduction: Course Overview, Presentation, Assessment Guidelines, etc.	Thomas Schmidtgall thomas.schmidtgall@uni-jena.de
SALAMANCA	2	2	Monday, 26.01.	Elementary ideas for new researchers. Gramsci and the concept of hegemony	Mattia Bianchi mattiabianchi@usal.es
		3	Thursday, 29.01	Truth, science and ideology: the “illusion” of objectivity in research. Gadamer’s hermeneutics: intersubjectivity as a method.	Mattia Bianchi mattiabianchi@usal.es
	3	4	Monday, 02.02.	Mixed methods research in Applied Linguistics and its pragmatic foundation	Miley Guimarães miley@usal.es
		5	Thursday, 05.02.	(Critical) Applied Linguistics and the intersection between language research and social justice	Miley Guimarães miley@usal.es
PAVIA	4	6	Monday, 09.02.	Variation and use of English in multilingual/multicultural societies I	Silvia Monti silvia.monti@unipv.it

4) Course Calendar (II)

	5	7	Thursday, 12.02.	Variation and use of English in multilingual/multicultural societies II	Silvia Monti silvia.monti@unipv.it
		8	Monday, 16.02.	Variation and use of English in multilingual/multicultural societies III	Silvia Monti silvia.monti@unipv.it
		9	Thursday, 19.02.	Variation and use of English in multilingual/multicultural societies IV	Silvia Monti silvia.monti@unipv.it
TURKU	6	10	Monday, 23.02.	Multilingual writer awareness at the university level - combining pedagogical and research methods	Maarit Mutta maamut@utu.fi
		11	Thursday, 26.02.	Multilingual writer awareness at the university level - combining pedagogical and research methods	Maarit Mutta maamut@utu.fi
IAȘI	7	12	Monday, 02.03.	Literature, Fantastic, Otherness in Europe. Obsessive Themes, Representative Authors, New Reading Methods	Emanuela Ilie iliemma@yahoo.com
		13	Thursday, 05.03.	Corpus Linguistics: Epistemological and Methodological Issues in Language Studies	Cristina Petras cristina.petras@uaic.ro

4) Course Calendar (III)

POITIERS	8	14	Monday, 09.03.	Researching Popular Literature and Culture Pop Lit 1: Folksonomy	Jessy Neau jessy.neau@univ-poitiers.fr
		15	Thursday, 12.03.	Researching Popular Literature and Culture Pop Lit 2: Publishing Ecosystems	Jessy Neau jessy.neau@univ-poitiers.fr
	9	16	Monday, 16.03.	Researching Popular Literature and Culture Pop Lit 3: Cultural Studies	Jessy Neau jessy.neau@univ-poitiers.fr
		17	Thursday, 19.03.	Researching Popular Literature and Culture Pop Lit 4 : Fan Academia	Jessy Neau jessy.neau@univ-poitiers.fr
COIMBRA	10	18	Monday, 23.03.	Digital Humanities Module DH1: Communities of practice in Digital Humanities	Manuel Portela mportela@fl.uc.pt
		19	Thursday, 26.03.	DH2: Project-based scholarship	Manuel Portela mportela@fl.uc.pt
	11	20	Monday, 30.03.	DH3: Processes and methods	Manuel Portela mportela@fl.uc.pt
		21	Thursday, 02.04.	DH4: Cultural significance of humanities work	Manuel Portela mportela@fl.uc.pt
	12		Monday, 06.04	EASTER BREAK – NO LECTURE	

4) Course Calendar (IV)

JENA	12	22	Thursday, 09.04.	Introduction to Learner Language Analysis: Developmental Sequences in German as a Second Language (I)	Christine Czinglar christine.czinglar@uni-jena.de
	13	23	Monday, 13.04.	Introduction to Learner Language Analysis: Developmental Sequences in German as a Second Language (II)	Christine Czinglar christine.czinglar@uni-jena.de
TURKU	13	24	Thursday, 16.04.	The Kalevala and Finnish Language Policy: A Case Study in Constructing National Identity in 19th- Century Europe I and II."	Christian Niedling cniedli@utu.fi
	14	25	Monday, 20.04.	The Kalevala and Finnish Language Policy: A Case Study in Constructing National Identity in 19th- Century Europe I and II."	Christian Niedling cniedli@utu.fi
IAȘI	14	26	Thursday, 23.04.	Explorations of TIME in Modernist Literature and the Arts Prompted by New Scientific Discoveries	Ana-Maria Brustureanu ana.brustureanu@student.uaic.ro
JENA	15	27	Monday, 27.04.	CONCLUSION: SUMMARY AND FEEDBACK	Thomas Schmidtgal, thomas.schmidtgal@uni-jena.de

5) Assessment

Completion Requirements:

- Attendance in at least 20 sessions
- Active participation
- Final paper of 10 pages

Communication:

- Supervisor and contact person at the university where you are currently studying always in cc.

Final Paper:

- Choose and contact a supervisor
- Deadline “Hand in” for students: **May 20, 2026 via Glocal Campus**

Important Documents on Glocal Campus:

- EC2U Online Course Essay Guidelines
- Essay template
- Teaching and Research Profiles

6) Rules of etiquette – Our shared agreement

- **Cameras on, please**
Seeing each other helps create a focused, interactive, and respectful learning environment.
- **Be present and engaged**
Treat the online seminar like an in-person class: avoid multitasking and distractions.
- **Mute when not speaking**
This helps reduce background noise and ensures everyone can follow the discussion.
- **Participate actively**
Ask questions, contribute to discussions, and use the chat respectfully.
- **Respect each other**
Listen attentively, allow others to finish speaking, and value diverse perspectives.
- **Be on time and prepared**
Join punctually and make sure your technology works beforehand.
- **Communicate openly**
If you have technical issues or need to turn off your camera briefly, please let us know.

7) Contact

Contact Person at Each University:

Overall Coordination:

Jena: THOMAS SCHMIDTGALL, thomas.schmidtgall@uni-jena.de

Participating Universities

- Coimbra: MANUEL PORTELA, mportela@fl.uc.pt
- Iași: NICOLETA POPA, e-mail: nicoleta.laura.popa@uaic.ro,
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