

The History of English Lexicography

Dr Ruxandra VIȘAN

Course Subtitle:

From mediaeval glossaries to Samuel Johnson's Dictionary of the English Language, from the Oxford English Dictionary to new developments such as Wikipedia.

Keywords: history of English, language ideology, historical sociolinguistics, monolingual/bilingual, glossary/dictionary/encyclopaedia

Short Description:

This course aims to make students familiar with the history of English lexicography. While the first part of the course will focus on monolingual dictionaries and their earlier bilingual sources, its final part is meant to offer landmarks concerning the history of English-Romanian and Romanian-English dictionaries.

Course Topics

1. Preliminaries: Dictionary typology. Dictionary structure 2. Beginnings: Glossaries and anthologies 3. Bilingual dictionaries and the Renaissance tradition 4. The seventeenth century and the beginnings of monolingual lexicography 5. Eighteenth-century universal dictionaries 6. The impact of Samuel Johnson 7. The nineteenth century and the Oxford English Dictionary 8. New Developments – English lexicography in the twentieth and twenty first centuries 9. English-Romanian dictionaries 10. Romanian-English dictionaries

Requirements: 50% attendance

Exam: A written test based on the topics of the course