Course description and its aims

The main goals of the course are to provide students with theoretical background of English phraseology and paremiology (study of proverbs), and to extend students knowledge of frequently used proverbs, sayings, idioms and collocations. We will learn what these proverbs mean, when and where they are used, and how to apply them to a concrete situation. We will explore some proverbial markers. The course also focuses on proverb humor. The course has also been designed to study American thought, life, and philosophy through proverbs. Topics: Phraseology, phraseography, paremiology, paremiography, lexicography, and lexicology; Historical overview; The etymology of phraseology; Basic types of phaseological units; Collocations and idioms; Phraseology and paremiology in the language classroom; Proverbial markers; The role of proverbs in the modern American and British societies; Proverbs in advertisements, comics and cartoons; Proverbs in songs and poems; Proverbs in graffiti and wellerisms; Proverb parodies.
By the end of this course, the students will be able to review and critique relevant research and literature, formulate a number of basic theoretical concepts, and will be familiar with the best well-known proverbs, sayings, idioms and collocations and will be able to show their ability to use them.

13 hétre lebontva /Divided into 13 weeks:

Lecture

1. Introduction.
2. Politicians and lawyers in Anglo-American anti-proverbs and jokes
3. Phraseology, phraseography, paremiology, paremiography, lexicography, and lexicology; Proverbs, collocations and idioms; Dictionaries.
4. Phraseology and paremiology in the language classroom;
5. Synonymy and antonymy. Proverbial markers (e.g., traditionality, currency, metaphor, paradox, ellipsis, word-repetition, rhyme, alliteration, pithiness, certain structures).
6. What constitutes a real American or British proverb? The role of proverbs in the modern American and British societies. Paremiological minimum and cultural literacy.
7. Proverbs in songs and poems, advertisements, comics and cartoons.
8. Women in Anglo-American anti-proverbs
10. Love in proverbs.
11. Sexuality in Anglo-American anti-proverbs
12. Proverbs and tales.
13. Course evaluation.

Seminar

1. Introduction. Old proverbs never die: they just diversify: Anglo-American proverb transformations
2. Punning in Anglo-American anti-proverbs
4. Proverbs about man and woman (T. Litovkina 2000: 117-123)
5. Proverbs about love (T. Litovkina 2000: 206-214)
9. Proverbs and tales (T. Litovkina 2004a; 2017: 84-103)
10. Students’ presentations
11. Students’ presentations
12. Students’ presentations
13. Test

Compulsory reading

T. Litovkina, Anna (2017). Teaching Proverbs and Anti-Proverbs. Komarnó: J. Selye University Faculty of Education. (excerpts)

Supplementary reading (excerpts)


Supplementary online materials
https://www.degruyter.com/viewbooktoc/product/449649

Assessment
Course grade will be based on the following work (percentages are approximate):

1. Presentation 20%
2. Final written exam 60%
3. Classroom participation 20%

The exam will mainly concentrate on the knowledge of 300 well-known Anglo-American proverbs and ability to use them.

Attendance
Students will be permitted two unexplained absences. Students must arrive on time to be counted as in attendance. It is your responsibility to stay current and find out what you missed if you were absent.

Grading Scale
0-49% (Fx)
50-59% (E)
60-69% (D)
70-79% (C)
80-89% (B)
90-100% (A)