

Grammar of gestures: evolution, brain and linguistic structures

Anotace

The main focus of this interdisciplinary class is to describe the development of a systematic classification of gestures and mimics from Darwin to the present. We will discuss and compare forms, structures and functions of different types of gestures and sign languages, and also possible integration of gestures into theories of (verbal) grammar and possible use of gestures and sign languages by patients with diagnosed aphasia in the process of their therapy.

Cíl předmětu

The students will be provided with a basic overview of theoretical reflection on gestures and mimics as organized structure of units and their relations (in the sense of grammar), as well as with information concerning grammaticalization of gestures and sign languages and possible use of gestures and sign languages in the process of therapy by aphasic patients.

Podmínky zakončení

Small oral presentations of each student (ca. 5 minutes)

Reading of thematic papers and following discussion

Regular attendance (i.e. two absences max.).

Literatura

BIRDWHISTELL, R. L. *Kinesics and Context. Essays on Body Motion Communication*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1970.

CALERO, H. H. *The Power of Nonverbal Communication. How You Act Is More Important Than What You Say*. LA: Silver Lake Publishing, 2005.

CAPLAN, D. *Neurolinguistics and Linguistic Aphasiology. An Introduction*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, [1987] 1998.

CICONE, M. – WAPNER, W. – FOLDI, N. – ZURIF, E. & GARDNER, H. The relation between gesture and language in aphasic communication. *Brain and Language*, 1979, 8, 324–349.

COCKS, N. – DIPPER, L. – MIDDLETON, R. & MORGAN, G. What can iconic gestures tell us about the language system? A case of conduction aphasia. *International Journal of Language & Communication Disorders*, 2011, 46, 423–436.

DARWIN, Ch. R. *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*, London, 1872. Available at: http://darwin-online.org.uk/pdf/1872_Expression_F1142.pdf

FRANKLIN, A. – GIANNAKIDOU, A. – GOLDIN-MEADOW, S. Negation, questions, and structure building in a homesign system. *Cognition*, 2011, vol. 118, no. 3, pp. 398–416.

GIVENS, D. B. *The nonverbal dictionary of gestures, signs and body language cues*. Washington, Center for Nonverbal Studies Press, 2002.

HELM-ESTABROOKS, N. – FITZPATRICK, P.M. & BARRESI, B. Visual action therapy for global aphasics. *Journal of Speech and Hearing Disorders*, 1982, 47, 385–389.

KENDON, A. *Gesture: Visible Action as Utterance*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.

LIDDELL, Scott K. – METZGER, M. Gesture in sign language discourse. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 1998, vol. 30, no. 6, 657–697.

MARSHALL, J. – ATKINSON, J. – SMULOVITCH, E. – THACKER, A., & WOLL, B. Aphasia in a user of British Sign Language: Dissociation between sign and gesture. *Cognitive Neuropsychology*, 2004, 21, 537–554.

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RODRIGUEZ, A.D. – RAYMER, A.M., & GONZALES-ROTHI, L.J. Effects of gesture + verbal and semantic-phonologic treatments for verb retrieval in aphasia. *Aphasiology*, 2006, 20, 286–297.

de RUITER, J. P. Can gesticulation help aphasic people speak, or rather, communicate? *Advances in Speech-Language Pathology*, 2006, vol. 8, no. 2, pp. 124–127.

SANDLER, W. & LILLO-MARTIN, D. *Sign Language and Linguistic Universals*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.

SEBEOK, T. A. Nonverbal Communication. In: Cobley, P. (ed.): *The Routledge companion to semiotics and linguistics*. London – New York: Routledge, 2001.

SO, W. Ch. – KITA, S., – GOLDIN-MEADOW, S. Using the Hands to Identify Who Does What to Whom: Gesture and Speech Go Hand-in-Hand. *Cognitive Science*, 2009, vol. 33, no. 1, pp. 115–125.

STOKOE, W. *Language in Hand. Why Sign Came before Speech*. Washington DC, Gallaudet University Press, 2001.

Syllabus

1. Introduction to the semiotics of nonverbal communication: theoretical framework and terminology
2. Evolution of thinking about gestures and mimics: From Darwin and Wundt to the present
3. Gestures vs. sign languages: possibilities of classification, basic correspondences and differences
4. Grammar of gestures vs. grammar of sign languages: Birdwhistell's Kinesics and context
5. Grammaticalization of gestures vs. grammaticalization of sign languages
6. Gestures and aphasia: parallel restrictions of speech and gestures
7. Gestures and aphasia: compensation of speech with the help of gestures
8. Using gestures to improve communication in the process of therapy of aphasia
9. Using gestures to retrieve words in the process of therapy of aphasia
10. Using sign languages in the process of therapy of aphasia
11. Small oral presentation of each student
12. Conclusions and possible views to the future of research of sign languages-gestures interface