What happens in the mind when language is at work? How do we process our surroundings, understand the world we live in, accommodate our own culture as shaper of perceptions... and communicate about it all by using the right words?

Cognitive Linguistics provides a theoretical framework to understand that language stems from interaction with the world and emerges in the mind as part of our experience as natural beings in the physical world. Meaning is construed as a bridge between all the complex thoughts in our minds, and what we can all understand in relatable and shared experience: our physical position in space. Language embodies the global cognitive capabilities of all human beings.

In this course, we will explore key concepts in Cognitive Linguistics such as conceptual metaphor and metonymy, mental spaces, prototypes, embodied cognition and gesture, image schemas, Cognitive Grammar, or language learning.