



DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

AF2205 Comparative linguistics and language typology, 7.5 credits

Komparativ lingvistik och språktypologi, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Languages and Literatures on 2013-03-26 and was last revised on 2017-02-16 to be valid from 2017-08-28, autumn semester of 2017.

Field of education: Arts 100%

Department: Department of Languages and Literatures

Position in the educational system

The course is given as a freestanding course at second-cycle level.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Language and Intercultural Communication (H2SIK)

Main field of studies

African Languages

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

For admission to the course, a Bachelor's degree is required or the equivalent thereof.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- show knowledge and understanding in the research domains of comparative linguistics and language typology and be familiar with basic theories and methods;

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to apply theories and methods to identify, formulate issues and to plan and carry out a limited research project within a given time frame as possible preparation for research studies;
- demonstrate the ability within the subject and at department level to present and discuss his/her research questions and research results orally and in writing;
- show such proficiency that is required to be able to participate independently in research work and demonstrate his/her ability to make research ethical assessments in his/her individual studies;

Judgement and approach

- relate critically to literature about comparative linguistics and language typology.

Course content

In the course, an introduction to systematic comparative language studies of different related languages and types of language structure is given. The student obtains a basic understanding of recurrent patterns in varying language systems, different hypotheses for unity, diversity and possibilities and limitations in human language. The course introduces the unity and diversity of languages in the following domains: phonology, morphology and syntax and information structure. The course also introduces basic theories about the relationships between languages from a synchronic and diachronic perspective.

Form of teaching

The teaching is conducted in the form of lectures and seminars.

Language of instruction: English and Swedish

Assessment

To what extent the student has achieved the aim of the course is tested through active participation and written take-home examinations and a short independent written assignment. The independent work should focus on a specific linguistic issue. The take-home examination and the independent work are presented at a colloquium.

A student who has failed a course item is eligible for a retake exam/assignment. In connection with written assignments, supplementary assignments may be offered in order for the student to achieve a Pass grade. Such a supplementary assignment should then be completed within the stipulated time (normally 5 working days after the result

has been published), otherwise the grade of Fail is reported.

A student who has completed an exam/assignment with a passing grade is not eligible for a retake for the purpose of receiving a higher grade. Nor may a student withdraw a test/assignment once it has been submitted for the purpose of avoiding receiving a grade for the work.

If a student who has been failed on the same examining course component twice wishes to change examiner before the next examination session, a request of this kind shall be sent in writing to the department responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary. (Chapter 6, Section 22, Higher Education Ordinance).

If the course has been discontinued or substantially revised, a student should be guaranteed to sit the examination on at least three occasions (including the ordinary examination occasion) during a period of at least one year based on the previous course structure.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

Course evaluation

The students are given the opportunity to make a written evaluation of the course. Results of the evaluation are published digitally.

Additional information

The major part of the course literature is in English.

Equality aspects should be taken into consideration in content, literature, teaching and evaluation. In addition, where relevant, the course should make students aware of and problematise ecological, economic, cultural and socially sustainable development.