



DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

TY2216 German in the world - historical and contemporary perspectives, 7.5 higher education credits

Tyskans ställning i världen - idag och igår, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Languages and Literatures on 2016-10-13 to be valid from 2017-01-16, spring 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 and may constitute 7.5 credits in a Master's degree (120 credits).

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

Main field of studies

German

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

For admission to the course, 60 credits of German with at least 30 credits from TY1210 are required, or the equivalent qualifications.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- give an overview of the position of the German language in the world in the past and today;
- describe and analyse situations with language contact and the position of languages in society by means of sociolinguistic concepts and methods;
- account for the relationship between language/language varieties and identity from a sociolinguistic and a language-political perspective;
- account for sociolinguistic and language-political factors in language historical development processes;

Skills and abilities

- integrate and apply knowledge of present-day and historical sociolinguistics, language policy and research into language contact;
- independently identify a research field and formulate relevant research questions pertaining to this field;
- solve an independently formulated problem in the field of sociolinguistics or language policy, present research results intelligibly and summarise them in a poster;

Judgement and approach

- orally and in writing analyse, evaluate and critically review his or her own linguistic arguments and studies and those of others on the basis of sociolinguistic and language-political positions;
- orally and in writing evaluate scientific and ethical possibilities, limitations and consequences for the surrounding society and for continued studies within the field.

Course content

The course is sociolinguistically oriented and treats the present-day and historical position of the German language in different parts of the world. Linguistic theories of multilingualism, minority languages, language contact and language policy are studied and applied both from a historical and a contemporary perspective. The course starts with an overview of the geographic dispersion of the German language in different periods and a discussion of theoretical and methodological issues. The course then has two thematic centres of gravity: First, the emphasis is on the geographic area where German is a majority language (i.e. present-day Germany, Austria and Switzerland). In case studies, the relation between different German varieties in society and the influence of other languages both in earlier language periods and today is studied. The other theme is German as a minority language in different parts of the world both in the past and today. Language-political questions are discussed in relation to different situations with language contact.

Form of teaching

The teaching consists of seminars and self-study.

Language of instruction: German

Texts in German and English are included in the reading list.

Assessment

The course is examined through oral and written assignments as well as a poster presentation of the students' own research questions.

If a student who has failed the same examined component twice, wishes to change examiner before the next examination, a written application should be sent to the department responsible for the course and be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In case the course ceases or goes through major changes, examination is available for a maximum number of three attempts (including the regular examination) for a period of one year on the basis of the previous set-up of the course.

Grades

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

The higher grade is established by evaluating the poster presentation 75% and other assignments 25%.

Course evaluation

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

Additional information

In the course, digital tools are used. Access to internet and computer is required.

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.