**EKK7404.HT Language and Society**

Prof. Anna Verschik, Dr Serdar Tekin, lecturer Piret Baird

Autumn 2025

Friday, 10.15-11.45

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | | Topic |
| 1. | 05.09  Anna Verschik | Introduction. Sociolinguistics, sociology of language. Speech ethnography. Dialect and language. Language borders. |
| 2. | 12.09  Anna Verschik | Language variation: sociolect, register, social class, gender, subculture etc. Language on the internet. |
| 3. | 19.09  Anna Verschik | An overview of language contacts. Language maintenance, language shift, language death. Emergence of new languages (pidgins, creoles, mixed languages). |
| 4. | 26.09  Serdar Tekin | Understanding multilingualism: how views have changed (from pseudo-science till now) |
| 5. | 03.10  Serdar Tekin | Multilingualism. Problematizing „mother tongue”. Individual and societal multilingualism. Diglossia and bilingualism. |
| 6. | 10.10  Piret Baird | Language policy: status planning, corpus planning, acquisition planning. Spolsky’s language management model. |
| 7. | 17.10 | Language ideology, corpus planning and identity. |
| 8. | 31.10  Piret Baird | Language minority and majority. Problems of minority definition (especially in the light of post-Soviet situation). |
| 9. | 07.11  Serdar Tekin | Multilingual speech. Code-switching and its types. Examples of multilingual communication. |
| 10. | 14.11  Piret Baird | Multicompetence model. Family language policy. Maintaining multilingualism |
| 11. | 21.11  Serdar Tekin | Language and identity: ethnic, linguistic, ethnoconfessional etc. |
| 12. | 28.11  Anna Verschik | Language, identity and creative writing: some case studies |
| 13. | 05.12  Anna Verschik | Language situation in Ukraine |
| 14. | 12.12  Anna Verschik | Test (additional dates will be assigned later) |

**To pass the course**, it is necessary to pass the test and complete two assignments (see below)

**The use of Artificial Intelligence is not allowed!**

1) Assignment prior to the lecture on multilingualism (3.10). Please collect examples of multilingual speech (conversations, online communication etc) or multilingual environments (multilingual signs, multilingual humour etc.). You need to share the material with the instructors prior to the lecture (for instance, on Google Drive). After the lecture you have to write 1-2 pages of reflection where you link your material with what you hear during the lecture - 10 points (deadline 10.10). **10 p**.

2) Family language policy group work (based on the lecture on 14.11). Small groups will be formed and the groups will find informants (either a couple/family of non-Estonian origin living permanently in Estonia or a mixed family where one of the parents is a speaker of Estonian and the other is not). You will have to conduct a brief interview and to write 1-2 pages of analysis, based on independent reading (the articles will be uploaded on ÕIS). Part of the assignment is filling out an evaluation form of your and your group mate’s contribution in order to aid the assessment process. Deadline 28.11 (send your analysis to the instructors). **20 p**.

3) Test: some questions are multiple choice questions and in some questions you have to write a more detailed answer (several sentences). The minimal number of points to pass the test is 36 p. During the examination session two additional dates for the test will be assigned. This will be agreed upon later prior to the announcement of exam dates. **70 p**