Linguistic Diversity
Bachelor Computerlinguistik

Vorlesung   2 SWS   ECTS-Punkte: 3
Lecturer: Annemarie Verkerk
Mi 10.15–11:45, Gebäude C7 2 / Seminarraum -1.05 (for now)

First class: 26-10-2022
Last class: 08-02-2023
Exam: 22-02-2023 (**registration deadline: 15-02-2023**)
Moodle key: Typology

Description
The students are given a broad introduction to the diversity of the languages of the world. After attending the course participants should be able to appreciate the different solutions that have evolved to express language on various levels (phonology, morphology, syntax, lexicon). They should have familiarity with methods both in typology and historical linguistics, including the analysis of syntactic patterns in foreign languages and linguistic reconstruction. Students should also be able to identify and evaluate quantitative approaches to typology and historical linguistics.

We discuss findings from linguistic typology, which attempts to classify languages on the basis of their structural features, especially focusing on which features are common and which are rare. A second focus is on the methods of historical linguistics. Several corpora of written and spoken language will be explored to give participants real-world experience. Topics include: Genealogical perspective on the languages of the world; Typological perspectives on phonology, morphology, syntax (lexical classes, semantic roles, grammatical relations, case and agreement systems, word order), and the lexicon; Language universals; The comparative method and linguistic reconstruction; Language contact; Models of language change; Language birth, death, and revitalisation; Writing systems; and Linguistic relativity.

Readings
Campbell, Lyle. 2004. *Historical Linguistics: An Introduction*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
Comrie, Bernard, ed. 2009. *The World's Major Languages*. London: Routledge.
Nettle, Daniel. 1998. 'Explaining Global Patterns of Language Diversity'. *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology* 17 (4): 354–374.
Nettle, Daniel, and Suzanne Romaine. 2000. *Vanishing Voices: The Extinction of the World's Languages*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
Velupillai, Viveka. 2012. *An Introduction to Linguistic Typology*. Amsterdam: Benjamins.
Wolff, Phillip, and Kevin J. Holmes. 2011. 'Linguistic Relativity'. *WIREs Cognitive Science* 2 (3): 253–65.

Requirements
Abschlussklausur with take-home/in-class assignments during the semester. **Active participation in and outside of class is required for admission to the final exam.**

Course Schedule

Date	class no.	Topic	Reading
26.10.22	1	What is (a) language?	
02.11.22	2	Genealogical, areal, and demographic classifications	Comrie (2009) Introduction
09.11.22	3	Explanations of linguistic diversity	Nettle (1998)
16.11.22	4	Intro to linguistic typology	Velupillai (2012) Chapters 1-3
23.11.22	5	Phonological typology	Velupillai (2012) Chapter 4
30.11.22	6	Morphological typology	Velupillai (2012) Chapter 5
07.12.22	7	Word classes and lexical typology	Velupillai (2012) Chapter 6
14.12.22	8	Word order and linguistic universals	Velupillai (2012) Chapter 10
21.12.22	9	Nominal categories	Velupillai (2012) Chapter 7
04.01.23	10	Verbal categories	Velupillai (2012) Chapter 8
11.01.23	11	Clausal syntax/grammatical relations	Velupillai (2012) Chapter 9
18.01.23	12	Methods of historical linguistics	Campbell (2004) Chapter 5
25.01.23	13	Cognitive linguistics and linguistic relativity	Wolff & Holmes (2011)
01.02.23	14	Language birth, death, and revitalisation	Nettle & Romaine (2000) Chapter 1
08.02.23	15	Revision / exam practise	