



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

LINN29, Linguistics: Semantic Typology, 7.5 credits

Lingvistik: Semantisk typologi, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2020-09-08 to be valid from 2020-09-08, spring semester 2021.

General Information

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can be included in a first or second cycle degree.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

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Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

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

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- give an account of semantic typology's general issues, span and significance in language studies and the cognitive sciences, and its relation to other linguistic typology fields
- give an account of semantic typology's research history, the main theoretical schools and most important research specialisations
- give an account of key methods and methodological principles in semantic typology
- give an account of the fundamental features of the semantic patterns and diversity among the world's languages in some key domains of meaning

Competence and skills

- define a semantic typology research question and explain its relevance for the field
- decide and argue for an appropriate theory and method for the answering of the research question
- formulate and carry out an empirically-based independent study that addresses the research question
- present the study orally and in writing

Judgement and approach

- relate critically to the relation between issue, theory and empiricism
- distinguish and give an account of research-ethical questions in relation to collection and processing of data in semantic studies
- be able to relate scientifically to diversity issues relevant to semantics

Course content

Semantic typology is the study of meaning from an interlingual perspective. The field analyses and compares the meaning of words, phrases and grammatical constructions in order to understand semantic similarities and differences between the world's languages. The course provides an introduction to the field's history, theory, methodology and also its scientific and practical relevance. It also provides an insight into interlingual patterns in a number of semantic domains including spatial relations, perception, emotion, anatomy and life forms. A strong emphasis is placed on the methodological development that has made it possible to collect comparable data from languages that are diverse in terms of genealogy, typology and geography. The course includes practical components using such methodology.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures and practical exercises in stimulus-based elicitation of linguistic data.

Assessment

Assessment is in the form of a final course project, which is an independent study presented in writing and in a short oral presentation.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

Entry requirements

Entry to the course requires 90 credits, of which at least 60 credits are to be in a language subject or linguistics (general linguistics or phonetics), and English 6 or equivalent knowledge.

Further information

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
2. The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree. For further details, see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.

Subcourses in LINN29, Linguistics: Semantic Typology

Applies from V21

2101 Linguistics: Semantic Typology, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction