



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## **LINB13, Linguistics: Diversity of the World's Languages, 7.5 credits**

*Lingvistik: Världens språk, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
First Cycle / Grundnivå

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2013-06-17 to be valid from 2013-06-17, autumn semester 2013.

### **General Information**

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can normally be included as part of a general first- or second-cycle degree.

*Language of instruction:* English

The course can be taught in Swedish if an agreement is reached by both the lecturer and the students. Such an agreement would depend on both the lecturer and the students having a good knowledge of Swedish.

*Main field of studies*

Linguistics

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the course the student shall

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- be able to give an account of the main language families of the world, where they are found and their typical features
- be able to explain the significance of language relatedness, what it is and how it can be recognised.

### **Competence and skills**

- be able to explain and apply the fundamental principles of language typology
- be able to distinguish between possible/probable languages and impossible/improbable languages
- be able to derive linguistic data from work with informants
- be able to make grammatical generalisations based on isolated examples of language
- be able to localise a language in the world (geographically or genealogically) on a basis of facts relating to structure and the sociology of language.

### **Judgement and approach**

- be able to discuss and reflect on his/her own native language in a global context.

### **Course content**

The course provides an overview of the languages of the world, to which families they belong and where they are spoken. It covers elements that are common to all human languages and in what manner languages may differ from each other, for example, in grammar and sound systems. Similarities between languages are also discussed, which can be a result of being genealogically related, of borrowing from another language or because of universals that are linked to how languages work as a means of human communication. A central element in the course is a group work assignment which involves examining the structure of a language the student is not previously acquainted with, using primarily the student's own informants.

### **Course design**

Teaching consists of lectures and compulsory group work.

### **Assessment**

The assessment is based on a written and oral report of a home assignment (individual or in groups) and a take-home exam.

*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**

To be admitted to the course students must have passed LINB02 Linguistics: The Structure and Function of Language or 60 credits in a language subject, or the equivalent.

## Further information

1. The course replaces LINB03.
2. This course is also a module in Linguistics, Level 1: LINA13. The credits can only be accredited once in a degree.
3. 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.
4. The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.

## Subcourses in LINB13, Linguistics: Diversity of the World's Languages

Applies from H13

1301 Linguistics: Diversity of the World's Languages, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction