



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## SASH26, Diversity of the World's Languages, 7.5 credits

*Diversity of the World's Languages, 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 2008-02-12 and was last revised on 2023-03-13 by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology. The revised syllabus applies from 2023-03-15, autumn semester 2023.

### General Information

Subject: General Linguistics The course is offered as a single course. It can normally be included as part of a general degree at the undergraduate or graduate levels.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Linguistics with specialization in  
Phonetics

Linguistics with specialization in General  
Linguistics

*Depth of study relative to the degree  
requirements*

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary  
level entry requirements

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### Learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall

#### Knowledge and understanding

- be able to describe the major languages of the world, where they are located and their typical characteristics
- be able to explain what "language relatedness" means, and how one can recognise it
- be able to explain and apply basic concepts of language typology

#### Competence and skills

- be able to make grammatical generalisations on the basis of a limited number of

language examples

- be able to place a language in the world (geographically or geneologically) on the basis of grammatical and sociolinguistic information
- be able to distinguish between possible/probable languages and impossible/improbable languages
- be able to account for the typological status of his/her own native language among the languages of the world

### **Judgement and approach**

- be able to evaluate reasons as to why the world's great number of languages is decreasing through language death.

### **Course content**

The course provides the students with an overview of the major languages in the world, the families to which they belong, their structural characteristics and where they are spoken. Different accounts as to why languages resemble or differ from each other regarding grammar and sound systems are taken up and discussed. Explanations as to why the number of languages in the world is fast decreasing through language death are further examined. The course puts emphasis on practical exercises where students are trained in analysing language structure and placing a language in a typological context on the basis of authentic data.

### **Course design**

Teaching consists of lectures and practical exercises.

### **Assessment**

Examination takes the form of a written take-home examination at the end of the course.

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**

General requirements for university studies in Sweden

### **Further information**

- The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.
- Students are required to have good knowledge of written and spoken English.
- Part of the course content overlaps with LINB23 and LINA15.
- The points 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 SASH26, Diversity of the World's Languages

Applies from H23

2301 Diversity of the World's Languages, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

Applies from V08

0801 Diversity of the World's Languages, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction