COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Language contact and areal linguistics	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: ass. prof. Ringailė Trakymaitė **Lecturer:** ass. prof. Vladimir Panov	Centre for Scandinavian Studies

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
BA	elective

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Classwork, independent work	Spring term	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: English B2	**Additional requirements (if any):** No

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	130 hr	32 hr	98 hr

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed
The aim of the course is to develop knowledge about language contacts, contact-induced language change, different paths of language change against the wider background of contemporary linguistic theory, e.g., grammaticalization; to introduce students to the concept of linguistic areas and areal linguistics; to provide in-depth knowledge of various *schprachnbunds* of the world and their joint and distinct features.

Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will acquire knowledge on the linguistic field of areal linguistics, language contact, contact-induced language change and its synchronic and diachronic paths resulting in recognition of various well-established *schprachbunds*.	Lectures Discussions in seminars Theoretical and practical assignments carried out individually and in groups	Cumulative grade based on participation in seminars and exercises.
Students will understand linguistic theories and concept related to language contacts and linguistic developments caused by these; students will get acquainted with prominent linguistic features attributed to diverse linguistic areas of the world.	Lectures Discussions in seminars Theoretical and practical assignments carried out individually and in groups	Cumulative grade based on participation in seminars and assignments
Students will be able to select and to apply research methods appropriate to a given research question, to develop research design, to collect and to analyse research data.	Lectures Discussions in seminars Theoretical and practical assignments carried out individually and in groups	Cumulative grade based on participation in seminars and assignments

Students will be able to critically assess their own and other research designs, data analysis and results, to identify their strengths and weaknesses.	Lectures Discussions in seminars Theoretical and practical assignments carried out individually and in groups	Cumulative grade based on participation in seminars and assignments
Students will be able to present research results in written and oral form.	Lectures Discussions in seminars Theoretical and practical assignments carried out individually and in groups	Cumulative grade based on participation in seminars and assignments

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours							Self-study work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Exercises	Laboratory work	Internship/work	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Introduction. What is language contact? Course overview. Explaining the form and the goals of final written essays.	2		2				**4**	**10**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment: finding language contact phenomena in students' everyday speech.
2. Social settings of language contact. Discussing the sociolinguistic aspect of the problem: how do languages interact in everyday practice?	1		1				**2**	**7**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters.
3. Contact-induced language change. An overview of contact-induced phenomena in phonology, grammar, and lexicon.	1		1				**2**	**7**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters.
4. Types of borrowings. Discussing two main types of borrowing: matter borrowing *vs* pattern replication.	2		2				**4**	**11**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment: finding the two types of borrowings in own experience of language use.
5. Grammaticalization and language change. Discussing the concept of grammaticalization and contact-induced grammaticalization.	1		1				**2**	**7**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment: finding the two types of borrowings in own

										experience of language use.
6. Linguistic areas / Sprachbunds. An overview of the concept. Online resources for studying areal linguistics: WALS, PHOIBLE, etc.	2	1	1					**4**	**7**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment: finding areal patterns in inline databases.
7. Language contact in phonology. The geographical distribution of sound types in the world's languages. Working with PHOIBLE.			2					**2**	**7**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment finding areal patterns in PHOIBLE.
8. Linguistic areas in Europe-1. The genealogical and structural diversity of the European languages. Standard Average European.	1		1					**2**	**7**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment: finding areal patterns in online databases.
9. Linguistic areas in Europe-2. The Balkan Sprachbund.	1		1					**2**	**7**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment: finding areal patterns in online databases.
10. Linguistic areas in Europe-3. Northern, Eastern and Central Europe. Circum-Baltic languages.	1		1					**2**	**7**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment: finding areal patterns in online databases.
11. The Caucasus. Discussing the areal patterns in the languages of the Caucasian region.	1		1					**2**	**7**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment: finding areal patterns in online databases.
12. East and Southeast Asia. Discussing the areal patterns in the languages of the East and Southeast Asia.	1		1					**2**	**7**	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment:

							finding areal patterns in online databases.
13. Mesoamerica. Discussing the features of the Mesoamerican Sprachbund.	1		1			2	7	Reading and discussing research papers and book chapters. Practical assignment: finding areal patterns in online databases.
Total	**15**	**1**	**16**			**32**	**98**	

Assessment strategy	Weight,%	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Attending the lectures and the seminars in person	25	During the whole semester	Provided the interactive character on the course, the students are supposed to compulsory attend all classes – both the lectures and the seminars – in person. Non attending a class (2 academic hours) without a sufficient ground (such as illness) results in subtracting 5%.
Contributions to seminar discussions	25	During the whole semester	Beyond simply attending the classes, students are expected to be actively involved in classroom discussion. It requires home preparation such as reading research papers and studying online databases.
Written research project	50	After the course during the exam session	After the conclusion of the course, the students are expected to submit an essay in which one areal or contact feature is studied on the basis of everyday observation, databases, and research literature. The essay is up to 5 MS Word pages long (12 points, single spaced). Assessment criteria: • Appropriate formulation of research goal and establishing research object; • correct use of primary sources; • correct citation of literature. • correct presentation of the project during the exam session (~10 min.)

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory readings				

Haspelmath, Martin. 2001. The European linguistic area: Standard Average European. In Martin Haspelmath, Ekkerhard König, Wolfgang Oesterreicher & Wolfgang Raible (eds.), Language Typology and Language Universals. Sprachtypologie und sprachliche Universalien. Sprachtypologie und sprachliche Universalien: La typologie des langues et les universaux linguistiques: An International Handbook: Ein internationales Handbuch: Manuel international, 1492–1510. Berlin & New York: Walter de Gruyter.

Hickey, Raymond (ed.). 2017. *The Cambridge Handbook of Areal Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Matras, Yaron & Jeanette Sakel. 2007. Investigating the mechanisms of pattern replication in language convergence. *Studies in Language* 31(4). 829–867.

Thomason, Sarah Grey. 2011. *Language contact: an introduction*. Repr. Edinburgh: Edinburgh Univ. Press.

Optional readings

Enfield, N. J. & Bernard Comrie (eds.). 2015. *Languages of Mainland Southeast Asia: the state of the art*. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.

Koptjevskaja-Tamm, Maria & Bernhard Wälchli. 2001. The Circum-Baltic languages: An areal typological approach. In Östen Dahl & Maria Koptjevskaja-Tamm (eds.), Circum-Baltic Languages. Volume 2: Grammar and Typology, 615–750. Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Tomić, Olga Mišeska. 2011. 16 Balkan Sprachbund features. In Bernd Kortmann & Johan van der Auwera (eds.), The Languages and Linguistics of Europe, 307–324. DE GRUYTER MOUTON.