



COURSE (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course (module) title	Code
Linguistic Variation in Indo-European Languages / Lingvistinė variacija indoeuropiečių kalbose	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Co-ordinator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lina Inčiuraitė-Noreikienė	Vilnius University, Faculty of Philology Institute of Foreign Languages Universiteto 5, LT-01513 Vilnius

Study cycle	Type of course (module)
First cycle	Optional

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Interactive lectures, practice	Autumn	English

Requisites	
Prerequisites: English proficiency at level B2	Co-requisites (if relevant): None

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	133	32	101

Purpose of the course unit

To develop:

- **general competences:** critical thinking, independent work and time management; intercultural communication and team work;
- **subject competences:** demonstrating familiarity with the key linguistic concepts; gaining critical assessment of the issues of linguistic variation.

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
<p>Students will acquire knowledge of linguistic variation in Indo-European languages on the level of phonology, morphology, lexicon, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to present information on basic concepts related to linguistic variation; - to provide examples of competing variants at different linguistic levels; - to critically discuss the phenomena that surround the concept of linguistic variation. 	<p>Interactive methods; group work and panel discussions.</p>	<p>Accumulative assessment Oral presentation of a research project</p>

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Practice	Laboratory work	Practice	Total contact hours	Independent work	Tasks for individual work
Introduction to the course. Variation and change in languages.	4						4	20	
Linguistic variation in morphology.	2		2				4	10	
Linguistic variation in phonology.	2						2		
Linguistic variation in lexicon.	2		2				4	13	
Linguistic variation in syntax.	2						2		
Linguistic variation in semantics.	2		2				4	5	
Linguistic variation in pragmatics.	2		2				4	13	
Overview of linguistic variation on different language levels. Panel discussions. Research presentations.	8						8	40	
Total	24		8				32	101	

Assessment strategy	Weight, %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Concept analysis and evaluation	10%	During the seminars	1 point: Concept analysis and evaluation in scientific literature.
Interview design	30%	During the seminars	3 points: Planning, organizing and analyzing an interview about linguistic variation in languages.
Oral presentation of a research project	60%	At the end of the course	6 points: Content (max. 4 points) Language use (max. 1 point) Structure and delivery (max. 1 point)

Author	Publishing year	Title	Publishing house or web link
Compulsory reading list			
Rainer, F., Francesco G., Dressler, W. U., Luschützky, H. C.	2019	<i>Competition in Inflection and Word-Formation</i>	Cham: Springer
Santana-Lario, J. Valera, S.	2017	<i>Competing Patterns in English Affixation</i>	Bern: Peter Lang
Kiesling, S. F.	2011	<i>Linguistic Variation and Change</i>	Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press
Mougeon, R., Nadasdi, T., Rehner, K.	2010	<i>The Sociolinguistic Competence of Immersion Students</i>	Bristol: Multilingual Matters
Cornips, L., Corrigan K.	2005	<i>Syntax and Variation. Reconciling the Biological and Social</i>	Amsterdam/Philadelphia : John Benjamins
Schneider, K. P., Barron, A.	2008	<i>Variational Pragmatics: A Focus on Regional Varieties in Pluricentric Languages</i>	Amsterdam: John Benjamins
Additional reading list			
Franco, L., Lorusso, P.	2020	<i>Linguistic Variation: Structure and Interpretation</i>	Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton
Reppen, R., Fitzmaurice, S., Biber, D.	2002	<i>Using Corpora to Explore Linguistic Variation</i>	Amsterdam: John Benjamins

Updated 2026-03-17