



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

LANGUAGE TYPOLOGY - 10808

Last update 08-09-2014

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: School of Language Sciences

Academic year: 1

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Eitan Grossman

Coordinator Email: eitan.grossman@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday 12:30-13:30

Teaching Staff:

Ethan Grossman

Course/Module description:

In this course, we will address some of the fundamental questions of linguistics: To what extent do languages differ? What's universal in language? Why are languages the way they are?

Course/Module aims:

To understand the central questions, analytical methods, and results of contemporary language typology.

To be able to conduct small-scale typological research.

To understand what's at stake when linguists talk about explanatory accounts of language structures.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

To explain the central questions, analytical methods, and results of contemporary language typology.

To conduct small-scale typological research.

To analyze data from grammars and descriptions.

To construct a balanced language sample for typological research.

To analyze cross-linguistic data.

To explain what's at stake when linguists talk about explanatory accounts of language structures.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The course will consist of a weekly lecture and discussion.

Readings and student presentations.

Course/Module Content:

Linguistic diversity in the world's languages

Greenberg's Question

Phonological Typology and Phonological Universals

Morphological typology: the structure of words

Lexical categories

Nominal categories and their syntax
Verbal categories and their syntax
Syntactic typology
Linear order
Pragmatic typology (speech acts and their grammar)
Diachronic typology
Language contact: typological perspectives

Required Reading:

An Introduction to Linguistic Typology (2012), by Viveka Velupillai, John Benjamins Publishing Company.

See also Moodle site.

Additional Reading Material:

See Moodle site

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 10 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 80 %

Assignments 10 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

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