

HS Languages of the World (Typology II)

Winter Semester 2016/17

Room: Hörsaal 24, Kupferbau (corner Hölderlinstraße/Gmelinstraße)

Time: Thursday 14-16 c.t.

Webpage: <http://www.sfs.uni-tuebingen.de/~jdellert/lehre/typo2>

Lecturers: Christian Bentz and Johannes Dellert

Organization: Johannes Dellert (jdellert@sfs.uni-tuebingen.de)

1 Course Schedule

27.10.	Session 01: Introduction and Overview “What is this course about? Which topics are available for presentations?”
03.11.	Session 02: Methodology (Dellert) “How do we decide which languages to look at? How many languages do we need to learn?”
10.11.	Session 03: Phonology (Dellert) “Which phoneme inventories are possible, and what is a typical inventory?”
17.11.	Session 04: Morphology (Bentz) “How much do languages differ in terms of word structure complexity?”
24.11.	Session 05: Lexicon and Word Classes (Dellert) “Does every language distinguish nouns and verbs? Do all languages have adjectives?”
01.12.	Session 06: Nominal Categories (Bentz) “How are large case systems built? What is the difference between gender and class?”
08.12.	Session 07: Verbal Categories (Bentz) “How does tense tend to combine with realis and irrealis distinctions? Why?”
15.12.	Session 08: Simple Clauses (Dellert) “How common is agreement with the indirect object? What is an anticausative?”
12.01.	Session 09: Word Order (Bentz) “Are word-order features easy to define cross-linguistically? Which correlations hold?”
19.01.	Session 10: Complex Clauses (Dellert) “How does relativization work across languages? Do all languages have conjunctions?”
26.01.	Session 11: Speech Acts and Politeness (Dellert) “How do languages form questions? How common is lexical substitution for politeness?”
02.02.	Session 12: Language Change (Bentz) “What is grammaticalization? Are there unidirectional paths?”
09.02.	Exam “Here are 20 sentences from Southern Klompf. What is typologically interesting about it?”

2 Course Requirements

- Velupillai (2012), our introductory textbook, is mandatory reading!
- Every participant is required to give a 30-minute presentation.
- Every participant must take the final exam in the last week.
- for **bachelor students**: presentation and exam count 50 % each
- for **master students**: only passing grade is required for certificate of attendance
- the course can only be counted as a **Hauptseminar**, and is worth **6 CP**

3 Presentation

- Based on your preferences, you will be assigned to a topic.
- Read the relevant textbook chapter as soon as possible.
- Survey some of the relevant literature, make a suggestion for a paper you want to present.
- Prepare a 30-minute presentation about your paper.
- Make an appointment with the person responsible for your session, so that you can meet one week before your presentation to discuss your slides.

4 Exam

- The purpose of the final exam is to check whether you did the required reading.
- Most likely, we will give you data from an unfamiliar language to analyze from several points of view, and ask you to decide (and argue) how unusual the language is in each respect.
- Having understood the core issues will be more relevant than detailed knowledge of the terminology.
- Answers can be given in English or German (or any mixture).

5 Registration

Send a mail to jdellert@sfs.uni-tuebingen.de with the following information:

- your name
- your student ID (Matrikelnummer)
- the semester you are in, and whether you are a bachelor or a master student
- your major and minor subject (“exchange student” is fine as well)
- languages whose grammars you are familiar with
(e.g. native languages, >2 years at school, more than one semester at a university)
- Which topics would you like to do a presentation on?
(name three in order of preference)

Do this as soon as possible, or you might not get your favourite topic!

6 Access to Slides and Materials

- For legal reasons, slides with images cannot be made available to the general public.
- In the first session of the course, participants will be given access data, which can be used to download materials from the course webpage.
- If for some reason, you do not have the access data, ask us.