Welcome to Language Situation and Language Policy in the Baltic Countries, 7,5 hp!

This paper contains information on course content and organization, and a literature list. On the last page is an excerpt of the Swedish Higher Education Act where you can read about the valid outcomes for all higher education.

Course content and organization
The course Language Situation and Language Policy in the Baltic Countries consists of a review of the language situation and the language policies in the Baltic countries. The course illuminates language use and language policies from a general perspective, against a background of the historical preconditions for multilingualism in the Baltic Sea area. The course investigates the situation and status of the local, national and international languages that are spoken in the Baltic countries.

Learning outcomes
Having completed the course the student has demonstrated the ability to:

- demonstrate profound, theoretical and specific knowledge about the language situation and language policies in the Baltic countries
- demonstrate profound, theoretical and specific knowledge about the historical preconditions for multilingualism in the Baltic Sea area
- formulate a theoretical discussion on language situation, language policies and multilingualism in the Baltic countries

Grades and forms of examination
The following methods of examination are used: 1) a written essay (10-15 pages) and 2) an oral presentation of the essay in connection with a seminar.

Grades are given according to a criterion referenced seven-point scale: A=Excellent, B=Very Good, C=Good, D=Satisfactory, E=Adequate, Fx=Insufficient, F=Fail.

A student who has received a grade of E or higher may not re/take the examination in order to get a higher grade.

The grading criteria for this course are found at www.bafity.su.se
**Course syllabus**
Course outcomes and content, and course literature, are regulated by a syllabus that has been approved by the Board of the Department of Slavic and Baltic Languages, Finnish, Dutch and German. The syllabus is found at www.bafity.su.se. The forms of examination and attendance requirements are also decided upon by the Department Board. These cannot be changed during the ongoing term. After each term, the course is reviewed, and your viewpoints on course content and organization are considered. You can present your evaluation/comments to the course teacher or the director of studies during the course itself, or via the special course evaluation sheet, which students are asked to fill out at the end of the course.

**Basic requirements**
In order to pass the course you must have access to a computer, have basic knowledge of a text editing program and know how to use the internet. You must also be able to make printouts, there are printing possibilities in the library. We presuppose that you have activated your university account. See [https://aktivera.su.se](https://aktivera.su.se) for information on how you activate your account.

**Plagiarism and cheating**
The Department of Slavic and Baltic Languages, Finnish, Dutch and German does not accept any form of plagiarism and cheating. It is you, the student, who is responsible for carrying out your studies and examinations in a correct manner. This means, for example, that in your written work you must mention sources and references with detailed care, and that all direct citations are correctly formulated. To cite statements and ideas written by others, without referencing the source, means that you are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism is a form of cheating and means that you will fail your course and you may be suspended from your studies.

**Attendance**
Attendance is not mandatory for this course, but you will be asked to give an oral presentation in connection with a seminar (30-40 minutes), so at least one of the seminars is mandatory. If you attend all lectures and seminars, you can expect to do much better in the course and achieve better study outcomes. This means that the risk is yours: if you miss a lecture or a seminar, then you cannot expect the teacher to give you private instruction and overviews afterwards. However, if you do miss a lesson or seminar for some reason, you can always ask a course mate to fill you in on what you missed. Experience has shown that students who miss class and do not actively participate in the lectures and seminars, have difficulties in passing the exams.

**Course teacher:** Peteris Vanags (peteris.vanags@balt.su.se)

**COURSE LITERATURE**

See the Mondo site.
The Swedish Higher Education Act (excerpt)

Second-cycle courses and study programmes shall involve the acquisition of specialist knowledge, competence and skills in relation to first-cycle courses and study programmes, and in addition to the requirements for first-cycle courses and study programmes shall:

- further develop the ability of students to integrate and make autonomous use of their knowledge,
- develop the students' ability to deal with complex phenomena, issues and situations, and
- develop the students' potential for professional activities that demand considerable autonomy, or for research and development work. Ordinance (2006:173).