Welcome to Baltic Languages in Contact, 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 Baltic Languages in Contact consists of a review of the Baltic languages in a historical perspective with special focus on language contact. The course analyzes language contact from both a general perspective and a direct linguistic perspective with focus on the languages that have been in contact with the Baltic languages during historic time.

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

• demonstrate profound, theoretical and specific knowledge about historical language contact, linguistic contact situations and different types of contact phenomena
• demonstrate profound, theoretical and specific knowledge about how the Baltic languages have changed as a result of language contact, as well as how the Baltic languages have influenced other languages
• formulate a theoretical discussion on language contacts between the Baltic languages and other languages in historic time.

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 take the examination again in order to get a higher grade.

The grading criteria for this course are found at www.su.se/slabafinety

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 Baltic Languages, Finnish and German (incl. Dutch). The syllabus is found at www.su.se/slabafinety. 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 and have basic knowledge in a text editing program and know how to use the internet. You must also be able to make print outs, there are printing possibilities in the library. We presuppose that you have activated your university account. See 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 of your written essay in connection with the final seminar (30-40 minutes), so at least one of the seminars – the final seminar – 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.

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**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).
COURSE LITERATURE

COURSE BOOKS:
*Languages in Contact: Findings and Problems*, by Uriel Weinreich. Walter de Gruyter (2010) (Chapters 1, 5) (Available electronically)

ADDITIONAL READING:

Book:

Books and articles, available electronically:
  1. The Latvian language and its dialects, by Laimute Balode and Axel Holvoet, pp 3-40
  2. The Lithuanian language and its dialects, by Laimute Balode and Axel Holvoet, pp 41-79


*Journal of Language Contact*. Articles:

*Language*, Article:

*Language Contact*, by Yaron Matras. Cambridge Books Online (Chapter 1)

*The Changing Languages of Europe*, by Bernd Heine and Tania Kuteva. Oxford University Press (2006) (Chapters 1, 2)