Saami Linguistics (Materials)

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(there will be additions during the course)
0.1 Description

- Work load: 5 ECT = 135 hours of work by the students (contact teaching, reading and assignments)
- 28 hours of contact teaching
- 20 hours of homework during the teaching week (5 times 4 hours)
- 87 hours assignment (small project and essay of 10–12 written pages; see also below for possible topics)

0.2 Daily schedule

- 10:15–12:45 (incl. short break)
- Lunch
- 13:15–15:45 (incl. short break)

0.3 Outline

0.3.1 Monday
- Introduction to the course
  interactive
- Saamic languages and their speakers and general intro to Comparative Linguistics
  interactive lecture

0.3.2 Tuesday
- Typology of Saami language contacts
  interactive lecture
- General linguistic features of Saamic languages
  interactive lecture
- Methods in comparative linguistics and linguistic typology
  practical lessons (using inflectional morphology in Saamic as a case study)
0.3.3 Wednesday
- General linguistic features of Saamic languages
  interactive lecture
- Methods in comparative linguistics and linguistic typology
  practical lessons (using inflectional morphology in Saamic as a case study)

0.3.4 Thursday
- General linguistic features of Saamic languages
  interactive lecture
- Documentation and description of endangered languages
  interactive lecture
- Corpus building for spoken languages
  interactive lecture

0.3.5 Friday
- General linguistic features of Saamic languages
  interactive lecture
- Documentation and description of endangered languages
  interactive lecture
- Corpora for written languages
  practical lessons

0.4 Reading

0.4.1 Bibliography (relatively updated)

0.4.2 Written corpora of Saamic languages
- http://gtweb.uit.no/korp/
0.4.3 Basics (obligatory for the present course)

  
  Descriptive grammar of Skolt Saami
  
  "Materials"

  
  Typological sketch of Skolt Saami

  
  Handbook article, focussing on Northern Saami
  
  "Materials"

  
  Handbook, focussing on Northern Saami
  
  "Materials"

  
  Comparative case study, focussing on Southern and Lule Saami
  
  https://munin.uit.no/handle/10037/10383

  
  Descriptive grammar sketch (manuscript) of Kildin Saami

  
  Reference grammar of Northern Saami
  
  https://helka.finna.fi/Record/helka.3104745

  
  Descriptive grammar of Pite Saami
0.4.4 Further reading


Saami metaphors and proverbs


Saami language evolution (only a few works)


Kildin Saami language contacts (works by myself; if you are interested but cannot find the papers send me a message)


  Contact-induced change in grammar


  Loanwords and language history


  Overview


  Complementation (which is partly due to language contact)
0.5 Topics (for essays and/or projects)

0.5.1 Suggestions

- Contrastive (synchron-typological) description of one more general linguistic feature from either of the levels of grammar (phonology, morphology, syntax, etc.) in at least 5 Saamic languages (Kildin, Skolt, North, Pite, Lule, South), e.g. phoneme inventories, inflectional morphology, clausal complementation; based on secondary sources

- Contrastive (synchron-typological) description of one more specific linguistic feature in 2 Saamic languages; based on secondary sources

- Analyses and description of a specific linguistic feature in one Saamic language; using general linguistic (synchron-typological) knowledge for comparison; based on primary sources (either written or spoken corpora)

- Annotation and description of a specific linguistic feature in one Saamic language; using general linguistic (synchron-typological) knowledge for a base of description; based on primary sources (speech recordings)
0.6 Tasks

0.6.1 Dual

Saami is the only Finno-Permic language to have a distinct dual number. (Sammallahti 1998a, p. 62)

- Prepare a typological survey on dual marking in Saamic languages, looking into morphological and syntactic properties.
- Think about a way to organize and present your data.
- Use the sources which have been made available for this course so far.
0.6.2 Corpus searches

Formulate and try corpus searches in Korp, finding out about, e.g.:

- duals
- polar questions
- ...