



### LINGUISTIC TYPOLOGY - ADVANCED

<b>Enrollment year</b>	2014/2015
<b>Academic year</b>	2014/2015
<b>Regulations</b>	DM270
<b>Academic discipline</b>	L-LIN/01 (GLOTTOLOGY AND LINGUISTICS)
<b>Department</b>	DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES
<b>Course</b>	THEORETICAL AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS; LINGUISTICS AND MODERN LANGUAGES
<b>Curriculum</b>	PERCORSO COMUNE
<b>Year of study</b>	1°
<b>Period</b>	1st semester (22/09/2014 - 22/12/2014)
<b>ECTS</b>	6
<b>Lesson hours</b>	36 lesson hours
<b>Language</b>	ITALIAN
<b>Activity type</b>	ORAL TEST
<b>Teacher</b>	CRISTOFARO SONIA (titolare) - 6 ECTS
<b>Prerequisites</b>	There are no prerequisites
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>The course aims to provide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the basic theoretical notions and methodological tools for cross-linguistic comparison;</li><li>- an overview of the current debate on the structural diversity of the world's languages and the theoretical implications of this diversity.</li></ul>
<b>Course contents</b>	<p>The course aims to provide an overview of the theoretical premises, methodology, and major research results of so-called functional-typological approach to the study of language. Several languages will be compared from different</p>

families all over the world, and it will be shown that, while languages differ to a great extent in their grammatical structures, the latter can be accounted for in terms of a number of general principles that are presumably valid for all languages. The theoretical implications of these facts will be discussed, with particular focus on a number of notions that are at the forefront of the current debate on linguistic diversity, such as that of language universals (particularly implicational universals and implicational hierarchies), functional motivations, and competitions thereof.

#### Teaching methods

Lectures

#### Reccomended or required readings

Classroom materials will be presented providing a detailed description of all course topics and relevant references (these materials will also be made available on the web). References will include a number of standard textbooks covering exam topics, as well as several reference works that can optionally be used for in-depth study of specific topics. Classroom materials can be used as a basic reference, and should be combined with one or more of the textbooks indicated in the reference list. Students are welcome to chose any of the latter, through the following are particularly recommended

Comrie, Bernard  
1989 *Universali del linguaggio e tipologia linguistica*. Bologna: Il Mulino.

Croft, William  
1990 *Typology and Universals*. 1st Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Song, Jae Jung (Ed.)  
2001 *The Oxford handbook of linguistic typology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Whaley, Lindsay  
1997 *Introduction to typology : the unity and diversity of language*. Thousand Oaks, California ; London : Sage Publications.

#### Assessment methods

Student assessment is made through exam papers consisting of exercises and questions on course topics. Some of the course lectures will be devoted to solving exercises of the same type as those in the exam papers. Students are allowed to re-sit all the examinations set in each exam session.

#### Further information

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