

School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies

LING 326 and 407

FY 2008

Special Topic: Danish and Comparative Germanic

1. Staff

The course co-ordinator is Prof Laurie Bauer, VZ 306, phone 463 5619, email laurie.bauer@vuw.ac.nz. Please put LING 326 or LING 407 in the title line of any email you send with reference to this course.

Staff indicate their office hours on their doors. Laurie Bauer's office hours in the first trimester will be Monday 11-12 and Thursday 1-2.

2. Classes

Classes will be held on Fridays between 1 and 3 in MY 301 over the full year. We will probably not use the full 2 hours every week.

3. Notices

Notices relating to the course, including tutorial lists, exam timetables, etc. will be posted on the Honours/Masters Notice Board between VZ306 and VZ307 on floor 3 of the Von Zedlitz building.

4. Aims

This course aims to provide a linguistic introduction to Danish, and, by comparison between the Germanic languages, to place both Danish and English in the broader context of the language family of which they form a part.

5. Objectives

By the end of the course students should have:

- i) an ability to work out the structure of a Danish sentence, and provide translations where vocabulary has been introduced;
- ii) an ability to comment on similarities and differences across the Germanic languages;
- iii) an ability to comment on historical developments in the Germanic languages;
- iv) developed their research and writing skills in this area of linguistics.

6. Content

The content of this course is as follows:

Class	Date	Topic
1	29 Feb	Introduction
2	7 Mar	Danish and Germanic
3	14 Mar	Danish and Germanic EASTER
4	28 Mar	The external history of Germanic
5	4 Apr	Language
6	11 Apr	T and V in Germanic MID-TRIMESTER BREAK
7	2 May	Language
8	9 May	The Germanic reaction to Romance vocabulary
9	16 May	Language
10	23 May	Dialects and standards
11	30 May	Language MID-YEAR BREAK
12	11 July	V2 in Germanic
13	18 July	Language
14	25 July	The emergence of the perfect
15	1 Aug	Language
16	8 Aug	The expression of future time and the passive
17	15 Aug	Language MID-TRIMESTER BREAK
18	5 Sept	Case
19	12 Sept	Language
20	19 Sept	Compounds
21	26 Sept	Language
22	3 Oct	Sound-shifts in Germanic
23	10 Oct	Revision

7. Reading

There is no set text for this course, but a bibliography will be handed out in the first class listing a number of relevant works, and students are expected to make use of local library resources to trace dictionaries and other works not listed.

8. Assessment

Assessment will be based on two assignments and a final three-hour examination.

	<u>Due date</u>
i) Assignment 1	19 May
ii) Assignment 2	22 September
iii) Final 3-hour exam (no materials permitted)	November

For LING 326 the weightings for these assessment tasks and their lengths are as follows:

	Word-length	Weighting
Assignment 1	2000 words	15%
Assignment 2	2500 words	35%
Final exam		50%

For LING 407 the weightings for these assessment tasks and their lengths are as follows:

	Word-length	Weighting
Assignment 1	2000 words	15%
Assignment 2	5000 words	45%
Final exam		40%

For Honours work, TWO copies of assignments should be handed in to the Secretary of the School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies (VZ210). Please keep a back-up copy of your assignment.

9. Penalties

In line with department policy, assignments handed in after the due date will receive a considerably reduced grade unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other evidence of exceptional circumstances. Information on penalty arrangements will be included with detailed instructions for each assignment.

Plagiarism will be penalised. Plagiarism means copying ideas or words from other people in such a way as to make it appear that they are your own. Gross plagiarism will automatically mean that you get an E for the assignment. Repetition of plagiarism after a warning can lead to your failing the course and being reported to the University authorities.

10. Assessment and course objectives

The first assignment and part of the examination will be directed at objectives (i) and (iii), while the second assignment and the major part of the examination will be directed at objective (ii). All written work will test objective (iv).

11. Workload

In order to make satisfactory progress in this course you should expect to devote, on average, 8 hours a week to it at 300-level and 12 at 400-level. This includes attendance at classes, preparation for classes, background reading and preparation for tests and assignments. Some students will find they need to do more than this, and students aiming for high grades will almost certainly need to do more.

12. Mandatory course requirements

Each student must make a satisfactory attempt at the two assignments and sit the final examination. "Satisfactory" means that where they have not reached a C standard, they must nevertheless reflect the fact that the assignment has been taken seriously and that a reasonable amount of effort has been devoted to the topic. No in-term work may be handed in after 5pm on 10th October. Each student must obtain a mark of at least 40% in the final examination.

13. Class attendance

It is expected that students will attend all classes. Please let the teacher know IN ADVANCE if you will be unable to attend a particular class.

14. University requirements

For general university requirements, see the Blackboard site for this course.