



AU SUMMER UNIVERSITY 2013

LANGUAGE DESCRIPTION AND LINGVISTIC FIELDWORK
AUGUST 5-18 2013

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Language description and linguistic fieldwork

The summer school course in language description and linguistic fieldwork will give you a broad introduction to the practical and methodological aspects of fieldwork, and the art of language description. It will also provide insight in the structures of two unfamiliar languages.

As many as half of the 7000 languages of the world may die out in this century. The vast majority of them are unsatisfactorily documented. This course is geared toward training students in language documentation.

The course consists of two parts. One part is devoted to the theory and practice of fieldwork, where you will work with a speaker of an "exotic" language, with whom you can practice your ideas and questions. The teacher is an experienced fieldworker. The other part will make you familiar with another language with an unfamiliar structure.

The structure course will make you familiar with the structures of an exotic language.

At the end of the intensive language course you will be able to:

- have insights in the grammatical structures of an unknown language
- broaden your view of the diversity of the languages of the world
- compare exotic constructions with those in more familiar languages
- apply this knowledge in future fieldwork

At the end of the fieldwork part you will be able to:

- Identify ethical, theoretical and ethnographic challenges of fieldwork
- Apply your knowledge in practice
- Acquire basic knowledge of a lesser-studied language
- Gain insights in methods used in fieldwork
- work on grammatical description of underdescribed languages

The course will prepare you for the groundwork of linguistic fieldwork in countries where undescribed languages are spoken.



Many languages in Asia, South America and Australia (see picture) are insufficiently described.

The course is part of AU Summer University and welcomes Danish and international full time students, exchange students and free movers.

APPLICATION

The online application will open early December 2012. The application deadline is 15th March 2013

Please visit the website au.dk/summeruniversity for more information on application procedure, housing, location and social programme.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOMING DANISH AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO AU SUMMER UNIVERSITY 2013.

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Date: August 5-23 2013
ECTS: 10
Level: Master