

Introduction

Community of Practice in Uralic Studies (COPIUS)
Foundations of Uralic etymology

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Heart of Uralic studies

- historical phonology and lexicology are at the very heart of Uralic studies!
- fields of study that are used to explain and prove genealogical relatedness of languages
- mastery of Uralic historical phonology and lexicology is what tells Uralicists apart from the rest of humankind
- after the course you will never look at words the same as before
- a Uralicist is at least as interested in what is being said as what words are used to say it

Goals of the course

- to understand the nature of historical-comparative method
- to gain basic knowledge of Proto-Uralic (PU)
- to gain basic knowledge of intermediary proto-languages of Uralic language (Proto-Finnic (PF), Proto-Saami (PS), Proto-Mordvin (PMd), Proto-Mari (PM), Proto-Permic (PP), Proto-Khanty (PKh), Proto-Mansi (PMs), Hungarian and Proto-Samoyed (PSam))
- to develop an ability to assess the age and origin of words based on their phonotaxis and semantic properties
- to build up a mental apparatus that allows one to apply sound changes and see what historical forms underlie different current forms of words in different branches of Uralic

Goals of the course II

- to become familiar with the main sound changes in different branches of Uralic
- to develop an ability to “transform” Finnish words into Saami and Mordvin by applying sound changes
- to know the most common contacts that the Uralic languages have had and the borrowings produced by these contacts
- to be able to pinpoint problems and inconsistencies in Uralic phonology
- to introduce the most up-to-date research and the latest trends

Goals of the course III

- to become familiar with the most commonly used marking conventions used in Uralic etymology, Uralic Phonetic Alphabet (UPA), (most commonly called suomalais-ugrilainen tarkekirjoitus (SUT) in Finnish)
- to know the main etymological sources: etymological dictionaries and data bases
- to learn how to read etymological dictionaries independently and critically assess claims made in them

Literature for the course

- Pekka Sammallahti 1988: Historical phonology of the Uralic languages (<http://kirnis.kapsi.fi/papereita/Ural-HistoricalPhonology.pdf>)
- Ante Aikio (manuscript): Proto-Uralic (https://www.academia.edu/40193033/Proto_Uralic)
- Tapani Lehtinen 2007: Kielen vuosituhannet. SKS.
- Kaisa Häkkinen 1990: Mistä sanat tulevat. Suomalaista etymologiaa. SKS.
- Kaisa Häkkinen 2013: Nykysuomen etymologinen sanakirja. WSOY
- SSA = Suomen sanojen alkuperä. Etymologinen sanakirja (pt. Erkki Itkonen & Ulla-Maija Kulonen)

Literature for the course II

- LÄGLOS = Lexikon der älteren Germanischen Lehnwörter der Ostseefinnischen Sprachen. A.D. Kylstra - T. Hofsta - Sirkka-Liisa Hahmo - Osmo Nikkilä. Amsterdam: Rodopi 1992-2014.
- Yhteissuomalainen etymologinen sanakirja
https://sanat.csc.fi/wiki/Luokka:Yhteissuomalainen_sanasto?fbclid=IwAR0KIN5axp4o_16k3ASDg1hhTD1AWBQPFZSwua5HFoAwhzUNewHXzuNp1GY
- Ante Aikio's articles about historical phonology and etymology
(<https://samas.academia.edu/AnteAikio>)
- AA's draft of Uralic etymological dictionary
https://www.academia.edu/41659514/URALIC_ETYMOLOGICAL_DICTIONARY_draft_version_of_entries_A_%C4%86_)