



COURSE DATASHEET

Semester:	2020/21/2
Course:	Minority languages
Code:	PEDITNY028
Responsible department:	
Department code:	DITNY
Responsible instructor:	Prof. Dr. István Csernicsekó

Course objectives:

The aim of this module is to let students know about the basic theories of minority languages, its theoretical and practical approach. The course will introduce concepts such as bi- and multilingualism, language contact, diglossia, language maintenance and shift, language planning, regional minority languages and immigrant minority languages in Europe. Different language political models also are in focus of attention, as well as the question of segregation, assimilation and integration of linguistic minorities. The analyses of language rights documents (language laws) in different states.

Course content:

The maintenance of minority languages is essentially determined by four closely related factors (and with the intentions, aspirations and policies of the majority community on minorities):

- Speakers who maintain the language (demographic factor).
- Situations and venues where the language can be used not only for symbolic and sacred purposes but also for practical purposes to satisfy real communication needs (utility factor).
- Rights that ensure the use of language (political condition).
- Speakers' intentions: they want to use this language and continue to inherit it for next generations (symbolic value).

In this module you will be introduced to various aspects of minority languages from a sociolinguistic perspective: bilingualism, language maintenance and shift, language policy and planning, linguistic human rights, language endangerment and death. Different language situations in different countries are discussed. In particular we will focus on regional minority languages and immigrant minority languages in Europe. Examples from the European context will be discussed and students will be expected to explore specific case studies and data according to their own program of study and language interests/experiences. The introduction of some minorities with a special emphasis on minority languages in Hungary, and the situation of Hungarians minorities beyond the Hungary.

Requirements, evaluation and grading:

Report (three-scale): Essay, Up to 800 words (100%)

Required and recommended readings:

Siehl, Koenen and Joo-Sung Park, eds. 2010. *Language and Culture on the Margins: Global/Local Interactions*



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Required and recommended readings:

New York–London: Routledge.

Hogan-Brun, Gabrielle and O'Rourke, Bernadette eds. 2019. The Palgrave Handbook of Minority Languages and Communities. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Sloboda, Marian, Petteri Laihonen and Anastassia Zabrodskaja eds. 2016. Sociolinguistic Transition in Former Eastern Bloc Countries: Two Decades after the Regime Change. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang.

Fenyvesi, Anna ed. 2005, Hungarian Language Contact Outside Hungary. Studies on Hungarian as a minority language. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.

Edwards, John R. 2010. Minority languages and group identity: Cases and categories. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Schalley, Andrea C. and Eisenclas, Susana A. (eds.) 2020. Handbook of Home Language Maintenance and Development. Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter Mouton.

De Korne, Haley 2021. Language Activism. Imaginaries and Strategies of Minority Language Equality. De Gruyter Mouton. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9781501511561>