



ЦЕНТЪР ЗА ОБУЧЕНИЕ – БАИ

1000 София
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Basic Information:

Course Title: Introduction to Geolinguistics – The Bulgarian Language in the Continuum and in New Contexts Worldwide

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Ana Kocheva

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Email: anak@abv.bg

Total Teaching Hours: 30

Annotation (up to 150 words)

Geolinguistics is the discipline that studies the geographical distribution of languages and their varieties across different regions. It examines how factors such as migration, settlement patterns, and social interaction shape the use and development of a language in specific areas, ultimately influencing dialects and language families. A central task of geolinguistics is the mapping of linguistic—most often dialectal—phenomena through individual maps or comprehensive atlases. The first and fundamental question in linguistic geography concerns the object of study: the subject of mapping and the place of the mapped phenomenon within the overall language system. The answer to this determines the second question—what principles should guide the mapping, how these principles relate to the linguistic fact or phenomenon as part of the system, what the immediate objectives of mapping are, and what methods should be applied. The third question addresses the interpretation of linguistic data and the type of historical insights they can provide about a language’s development. Closely connected to all three is the fourth question: how, and by which methods, the material for a linguistic atlas should be collected and processed. The course aims to illustrate these and other issues through linguistic maps of the Bulgarian language territory and atlases of languages across Europe

Course content (brief description by topics or modules)

Topic / Module 1: Historical Development of Linguistic Geography

Topic / Module 2: The Bulgarian Geolinguistic School and Practice

Topic / Module 3: Principles of Cartography

Teaching and assessment methods

Lecture-based mode of instruction

Assessment methods:

- Seminar participation: 20%
- Midterm assignment (analysis of a specific dialectal area): 30%
- Final project (research paper on a selected topic): 50%

Competencies acquired as a result of training (3–5 points)

Knowledge of the historical development of linguistic geography

Knowledge of the dialectal division of the Bulgarian language

Proficiency in specialized terminology

Thematic bibliographic enrichment



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Literature:

St. Stoykov. *Bulgarian Dialectology*. 1962, 1968, 1993; 4th phototype edition. Sofia: Prof. Marin Drinov Academic Publishing House, 2002.

Bulgarian Dialect Atlas. Generalizing Volume I–III: Phonetics. Accentology. Lexis. Sofia: Trud, 2001.

Bulgarian Dialect Atlas. Generalizing Volume IV: Morphology. Sofia: Prof. Marin Drinov Academic Publishing House, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 2016.

Map of the Dialectal Division of the Bulgarian Language. Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 2014.

Available at: https://ibl.bas.bg/bulgarian_dialects/

A. Kocheva. *The Mixed Language of the Viennese Bulgarians*. Sofia, 2017.

Additional information (optional) (e.g., special requirements, laboratory equipment, prior knowledge)