Veranstalter:	Julia Davydova
Thema:	Introduction to Variationist Sociolinguistics [AA-A1, ENG-4/a, ENG-5, AA-V1a/b, AAV2a/b, AA-W, AA-M1]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar Ib
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-513
Zeit:	2st., Fr 16-18
Raum:	Phil 701
Beginn:	13. April 2012

Goals:

This course will focus on how to do research in one of the branches of sociolinguistics - variationist sociolinguistics. In so doing, it highlights the major theoretical concepts employed in the field, and provides a step-by-step, exercise-based introduction into the foundations of empirical research on language variation and change.

Students get a chance to learn about some of the most essential aspects of a variationist enterprise, which comprise activities such as formulating a sociolinguistic issue and developing a sample design for the study, constructing a schedule guide, writing an informed consent and conducting a sociolinguistic interview. Students also get glimpses into how to transcribe and extract data, as well as how to read results contained in reports of sociolinguists working in the quantitative paradigm of sociolinguistics.

Finally, we look at some phonological, morphosyntactic and discourse pragmatic linguistic variables, while taking recourse to a sample including both native and non-native speaker varieties of English.

Participation requirements:

Regular attendance, active participation in all classroom activities, fulfilment of homework assignments.

Credits requirements:

In this course student are expected to fulfil the following academic requirements: (i) transcription of a small data sample (10 minutes of audio/video recording); (ii) an academic talk and (iii) a term paper (15 pages, TNR, double spaced) or a test.

Reading:

Tagliamonte, Sali A. 2006. Analysing Sociolinguistic Variation. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Tagliamonte, Sali A. 2012. Variationist Sociolinguistics. Change, Observation, Interpretation. Malden: Blackwell.

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