

## Slavic L572: Comparative Slavic Linguistics: Syllabus

Basic textbook: Townsend, Charles E. and Laura A. Janda. *Common and Comparative Slavic: Phonology and Inflection*. Slavica, 1996.

- I. Introduction. (T&J, Preface and Ch. 1, pp. 13-35.)
  - A. Indo-European.
  - B. Baltic and Balto-Slavic
  - C. The Slavic languages.
  
- II. Late Indo-European > Early Common Slavic. (T&J, Ch. 2)
  - A. IE Sound System. (Ivanov & Gamkrelidze, pp. 9-17).
    1. Voiced Aspirates or Glottalized Stops?
    2. Saussure and the laryngeal theories.
    3. Ablaut alternations. (T&J, Ch. 6)
  - B. Loss of aspiration in consonants.
  - C. Loss of syllabic sonants. (Cf. Shevelov Ch. 5)
  - D. Rise of Slavic *x*.
  - E. History of IE velars in Slavic.
  - F. Early changes of non-high vowel monophthongs (*o/a*, *e*) in Slavic.
  
- III. Early Common Slavic > Late Common Slavic
  - A. Tendency to open syllable (rising sonority). (T&J Ch. 3)
    1. Final consonants.
    2. Simplification of consonant clusters.
    3. Monophthongization of diphthongs.
    4. Prothetic consonants.
    5. Fall of jers in relation to open syllable.
  - B. Tendency to syllabic synharmony. (T&J Ch. 4)
    1. Velar Palatalizations.
      - a. First regressive.
      - b. Second regressive.
      - c. Progressive.
    2. Consonant mutation before jot.
    3. Vowel fronting after palatal consonant.

IV. Changes in vowel quality (quantitative opposition > qualitative) (T&J, Ch. 5, ¶5.1-5.3)

- A. Opposition of *ǫ* long and short; *ī* > *y*.
- B. Evolution of *jat'* (*e* vs. *ě*).
- C. Quantity in high vowels: the rise of *jers*.

V. Common Slavic Accentology (T&J Ch. 5, ¶5.4)

- A. The question of Indo-European reflexation. (cf. Dybo and Illič-Svityč, 1963)
- B. Saussure's Law vs. Dybo's Law
- C. Later changes resulting from jers: the neo-acute. (cf. Jakobson, 1963)

VI. Review of ablaut at the end of LCS. (T&J Ch. 6)

VI. Morphology (if time permits).

- A. Morphophonemic alternations. (T&J Ch. 7)
- B. Declension (T&J Ch. 8)
- C. Conjugation (T&J Ch. 9)

Additional bibliography (selected handouts or e-handouts will be provided where needed):

Čekmonas, V. Введение в славянскую филологию. Vilnius: Mokslas, 1988, and others.

Dybo, V. and Illič-Svityč, V. "К истории славянской системы акцентуационных парадигм." In *Славянское языкознание*, Moscow, 1963.

Ivanov, Vjač. and T. Gamkrelidze. Индоевропейский язык и индоевропейцы, I. Tbilisi, 1984. (English translation, 1995)

Jakobson, R. *The Slavic Languages*. New York, 1956.

Jakobson, R. "Опыт фонологического подхода к историческим вопросам славянской акцентологии." In *American Contributions to the Fifth International Congress of Slavists*, The Hague: Mouton, 1963.

Lunt, Horace G. *Old Church Slavonic Grammar* (7th Revised Edition). Berlin/New York: Mouton de Gruyter, 2001. (Chapter Six: A Sketch History, pp. 181-257)

Shevelov, G. *A Prehistory of Slavic*. New York: Columbia, 1965

*Course Information*

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*Assignments:*

*The main assignments are the readings in the Townsend & Janda textbook, abbreviated "T&J" on the syllabus. Additional materials will be supplied as handouts or computer files. Occasional exercises will be assigned for homework and often will be reviewed in class. Exercises will be assigned or given as handouts and should be done as homework. They will usually be reviewed in class or collected and corrected by the instructor. Classroom tests include quizzes, a midterm, and a final. Their dates will be announced in class in advance. The grade will be averaged, based on tests and classroom/homework participation. The final counts for  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the grade, the midterm for  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and the quizzes for  $\frac{1}{4}$ , assuming that the classroom work is satisfactory. In the event of excellent or unsatisfactory classroom performance, the test average may be adjusted up or down by up to  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Regular attendance counts as part of satisfactory classroom performance. Absences should only occur due to medical or other emergency reasons, unless previously cleared with the instructor.*

Class Website: <http://www.indiana.edu/~pollang/compslavic.htm>