Turku 2017

The 5th International Winter School for Finno-Ugric Studies took place at the University of Turku from 27.2.-4.3.2017. It comprised a language course, two workshops, two lectures and a student colloquium.

Language course: Moksha
This course, taught by a native speaker, gave an introductory overview of Moksha, one of the two Mordvin languages.

Workshop I: Cognitive linguistics
The aim of this workshop was to get acquainted with basic concepts of cognitive linguistics, such as conceptualization, trajector and landmark, and metaphor. As case studies, fictive motion, semantics of spatial expressions (local cases and adpositions/adverbs), and metaphors of time were discussed. The learning objective of the workshop was that the student is familiar with cognitive ways of thinking about language, finds cognitive literature more easily accessible, and can think of cognitive solutions for linguistic problems.

Workshop II: Analysis of text material and corpora
The objective of the workshop was to introduce and demonstrate some statistical methods used in (variationist socio-)linguistics. The course addressed the use of statistical packages for multivariate analyses, especially packages with a VARBRUL origin and alternative packages with newer tools and techniques (e.g. R).

Guest lecture by Ulla-Maija Forsberg (University of Helsinki/Institute for the Languages of Finland): "Etymology and expressive words"
The lecture gave an overview on the origin and the etymology of expressive words

Lecture by Sirkka Saarinen (University of Turku): "(Finnish) folkloristics within Uralistics and beyond"
The lecture gave an overview on the history of Finnish folkloristics, the relation between folkloristics and Uralistics, as well as on the use of folklore materials as linguistic corpora.