

**Brigitte Pakendorf**  
**Typology of Siberian Languages**

Recommended reading:

- Anderson, G.D.S. 2004. The Languages of Central Siberia. Introduction and Overview. In E.J. Vajda (ed.), *Languages and Prehistory of Central Siberia*, 1–119. Amsterdam, Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Anderson, G.D.S. 2006. Towards a Typology of the Siberian Linguistic Area. In Y. Matras, A. McMahon & N. Vincent (eds.), *Linguistic Areas. Convergence in Historical and Typological Perspective.*, 266–300. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Comrie, Bernard. 1981. *The Languages of the Soviet Union*. (Cambridge Language Surveys). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. → Chapters on Altaic, Uralic, and Paleosiberian and other languages
- Vajda, Edward J. 2009. The Languages of Siberia. *Language and Linguistics Compass* 3(1). 424–440. doi:10.1111/j.1749-818X.2008.00110.x.

Topics:

- Lecture 1: **Introduction** (Siberia, the languages and their speakers, typological overview) + **Phonology** (suprasegmental): vowel harmony; outliers (Ket tones, Itelmen labialization)
- Lecture 2: **Nominal Morphology**: large case systems; Dative-Allative distinction; possessive constructions; outliers (Ket gender, Nivkh numeral classifiers)
- Lecture 3: **Verbal morphology**: verbal argument indexation; aspect/aktionsart: morphology vs. auxiliary verb constructions; future imperative; voice
- Lecture 4: **Topics in morphosyntax**: negation; encoding of definiteness
- Lecture 5: **Topics in syntax**: subordinate clause predicates; participial relative clauses; marking of direct objects