

DOCUMENTARY LINGUISTICS I prof. Nicole Nau, UAM winter 2018/2019

**First lecture** 02 October 2018

### TOPICS OF THE DAY

- About me and you
- What is Documentary Linguistics?
  What is language documentation?
- How was language documentation done in earlier times?
- What will we learn this semester?
- What do you have to do for the credits?

#### ABOUT ME

e-mail: Nicole.Nau@amu.edu.pl

my office: 217 in this building (Collegium Novum A)

office hours: Wednesday 12-13, or after individual appointment

my homepage: <a href="http://naunicol-e.home.amu.edu.pl/">http://naunicol-e.home.amu.edu.pl/</a>

MA program Empirical Linguistics and Language Documentation

(ELLDo): <a href="http://elldo.amu.edu.pl">http://elldo.amu.edu.pl</a>

=> find the course homepage there under **Classes**, or go directly to:

http://elldo.amu.edu.pl/?page\_id=549

## PROJECTS WHERE ELLDO STAFF WAS/IS INVOLVED

INNET Innovatve Networking in Infrastructure for Endangered Languages (2011-2014). One result: Educational platform Languages in Danger: <a href="http://languagesindanger.eu/">http://languagesindanger.eu/</a>

Poland's Linguistic Heritage. Documentation Database for Endangered Languages (2012-2014). <a href="http://inne-jezyki.amu.edu.pl">http://inne-jezyki.amu.edu.pl</a>

COLING Minor Language, Major Opportunities. Collaborative Research, Community Engagement and Innovative Educational Tools (2018-2022). <a href="https://colingproject.wordpress.com/">https://colingproject.wordpress.com/</a>

#### DOCUMENTARY LINGUISTICS

- a new field of linguistics (since the 1990s)
- concerned with language documentation (sometimes synonym)
- interdisciplinary

Why in the 1990s?

Why interdisciplinary? Which disciplins?

### DOCUMENTARY LINGUISTICS IS RELATED TO:

- concern about language endangerment
- corpus linguistics
- speech technology
- ethnography
- ...

«Documentary linguistics takes up a vision of the integration of the study of language structure, language use, and the culture of languages.» (Hill 2006) «Documentary Linguistics [..] is concerned with the making and keeping of records of the world's languages and their patterns of use.» (Woodbury 2003)

#### QUESTIONS

What **records** are there of the English language?

Imagine nobody speaks English anymore. What could someone **learn** about English from the existing records?

How is the situation for the other ~ 7000 languages of the world?

## HOW ARE ENDANGERED LANGUAGES DOCUMENTED?

Let's watch and (critically) discuss the trailer of the film «The linguists»

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HInOD7VrCdY

Is this how language documentation looks like?

## «PREHISTORY» (LANGUAGE DOCUMENTATION BEFORE DOCUMENTARY LINGUISTICS)

16th – 18th/19th century, for example

- European travelers and scholars collect the Lord's Prayer in various languages
- Spanish missionaries in Latin America write grammars and dictionaries of indigenous languages
- German and Russian scholars describe languages of Russia / Siberia

Why do they do that?

## THE LORD'S PRAYER IN LATVIAN IN SEBASTIAN MÜNSTER'S *COSMOGRAPHIA* 1588

Von dem Teutschen Candt. Werit

Einandere Statt in Lyfflandt mit nammen Derpft/hatjre Rauffmanschafft mit den Die Statt Reussen. Reuslaber ist weiter gegen Mitnacht zu dem Oftsee gelegen/gebraucht sich nicht Derpft. weniger der Rauffmanschafft alf Riga/ist auch schier derselb brauch da. Sie haben Lübes etische Recht/welcher sich die andern Stettlein auch gebrauchen. Es sind viel Spraachen in Lyfflandt/deren sich feine mit der andern vergleicht. Zu Reuel und zu Derpst reden sie ein Sprach/heißt Estensch/von umb Riga braucht man Lyuisch/da ist die recht Lyfflandis siche Sprach/vnd betten daselbst die Bawren/so Gottes Wort bericht haben/auff volgens de weiß ihr Watter unser:

Datter wnser der du bist in Himmeln/ geheitigetwerd dein Namm sutomm was dem Tabes mus kas tu es eckschan debbessis/Schwetis tows waars/ enack mums tows Neich dein will geschehe wie in Himmeln also auff Erden. Baser täglich walstibe/ tows praats dus ka eckschkan Debbes/ta wursan semmes. Musse denische Biot gib vas heut vergib vas unser schuid als wir vergeben unsern Manse duth mums schodeen/ pammate mums musse grafe kames pammat musse schuidigern/ nicht cynfahi vas bosen versuchung sonder behüt vas voi allem bosen. parradueken/ Ne wedde mums louna badeekle/ pett passarga mums nu wüsse loune. Dis alles oder zum grössern theil/hab ich von dem erfahrnen Johann Hasentödter/ so

Diß alles oder zum gröffern theil/hab ich von dem erfahrnen Johann Hafentodter/ so manich jar in Enfflandt an den Herzen Hofen va Cantleyen gewesen/vaviel erfahre hat.

# A 17TH CENTURY DICTIONARY OF NAHUATL

### PALABRAS DE L LUTACION.

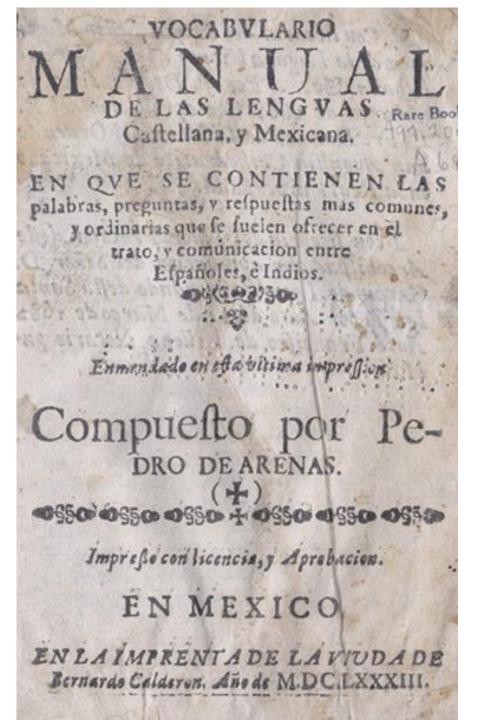
Dios sea con todos Mato Tecuiyo Dios nican Dios sea con todos Mato Tecuiyo Dios amotlan moyetztie.

Dios sea con tigo- Ma Dios motla moyeztie.

enorabuena esteis- ma ihuianpaccaxie.

como te và- quen tinemi.

mucho ha- ye huecauhticaque no te é visto- in ahmo nimitzitta



## GRAMMAR OF AN ESTONIAN DIALECT PUBLISHED IN 1863

#### MÉMOIRES

DE

L'ACADÉMIE IMPÉRIALE DES SCIENCES DE ST.-PÉTERSBOURG, VII° SÉRIE. Tome VII, N° 8.

#### VERSUCH

CEBER DEN

#### WERROEHSTNISCHEN DIALEKT.

Vos

F. J. Wiedemann.

Mitgliede der Akademie.

Gelesen am 4. December 1863.

## HISTORY: LANGUAGE DOCUMENTATION IN THE LATER 19TH AND THE 20TH CENTURY

A remarcable scholar and person:

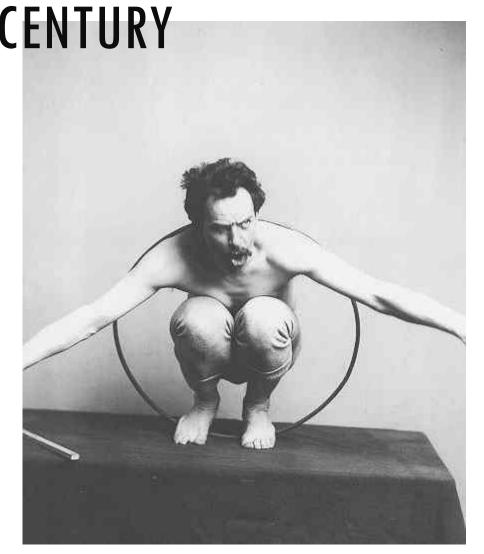
Franz Boas (1858-1942)

education in physics and geography

pioneer of modern anthropology

founded a standard for documenting languages: text collection + dictionary + grammar

? why is this (not) enough?



#### DAKOTA TEXTS, EDITED BY BOAS' STUDENT ELLA DELORIA 1932

#### PUBLICATIONS

of the American Ethnological Society Edited by FRANZ BOAS

VOLUME XIV



#### DAKOTA TEXTS

 $\mathbf{BY}$ 

ELLA DELORIA

#### 1. Ikto'mi Conquers the I'ya.

1. He'c'eś Ikto'mi ka'k'ena tok'e'-ec'a'c'a¹ oma'ni-ya'hą śk'e'e.¹

. Paha' wą ka'k'el-iya'hikta hą'l I'ya i'ś-'eya'³ uma' ec'i'yatahą iya'hą c'ąke' Ikto' li'la nihi'ciyi ną — Ě! ąpe'tu-le'c'ecaka c'a e'i vat'ikta huśe, — ec'i'-hig.la śk'e'e. 3. Mak'a'-b.lu icu' ną sic'q' ki'klila kpawi'yakpa ną leya' śk'e'e, — Huhuhê, misu', nai'ś c'iye' haś+, i'ś tukte'-uma' t'ou'kap'api huwo'?) — eya' śk'e'e. 4. K'e'yas'ya c'uwi' oki'niya c'q'śna Ikto' yace'kcek icu''u; c'ąke' k'oki'p'ehcią, — Wą, misu', nai'ś c'iye', ak'o'wap'a na'żi ye'. Mi'ś-'eya' wac'i' q'tahąś yat'a'hena ic'i'cukte lo', — eya' śk'e'e. 5. K'e'yaś I'ya yu'pteśni yuk'a' heha'l ak'e' — Ho, it'o' misu', nai'ś c'iye' (haś+ś tukte'-uma' t'ou'kap'api c'a!), to'huwel nit'u'pi huwo'? — eya' k'e'e. 6. Yuk'a' — Eya' mahpi'ya ną mak'a' ki lena' t'oka'-ka'gap'i

#### Literal Translation.

1. And so / Iktomi / into yonder direction / at random / to trave e was going, / they say. 2. Hill / a / the instant he was about to each the top / then / Iya / he too / other (side) / from / he reached the op / so / Iktomi / very / he was frightened / and / "Ah! / this sort f day / such / in / I shall die / evidently," / suddenly he thought , ney say. 3. Dust / he took / and / thigh / the / very-very / he polhed his own / and / said this / they say / "Well, well, well, / my nunger brother, / — or else / my elder brother, / — (Has! / then hich of two / we are the elder / I wonder?") / he said / they say But / Iya / trunk / he breathed into his own / (he breathed enty) / then each time / Iktomi / jerking, causing to stagger / he or him; / so / he feared him very much / and / "Why, / my

### LANGUAGE DOCUMENTATION IN THE 21ST C.

«language documentation is the creation, annotation, preservation and dissemination of transparent records of a language» (Woodbury 2011)

More next week!

## COURSE PROGRAM FOR THIS SEMESTER

Language documentation: principles and goals; language archives (3 lectures after the introduction, 9.10.-23.10.)

**Data acquisition**: fieldwork, recording, elicitation techniques, ethic and legal aspects, basic data management; (4 lectures, 30.10.-20.11.)

Data annotation (4 lectures, 27.11.-18.12.)

Interpretation and applications: e.g. orthography development, dictionary making, development of teaching material; case studies; students' project presentations (January)

#### ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS AND HOMEWORK

Find the homepage of this class at the site elldo.amu.edu.pl

Tasks & Text contains homework – reading

#### For course credits: three assessment tasks, due:

- ≥06.11. on language documentation and archives
- >27.11. on data acquisition
- >08.01. on annotation (or related topic)

Assessment tasks will be given three weeks before they are due.

## BONUS: LET'S EXPLORE SOME WEBSITES WITH DOCUMENTS/MATERIALS FROM VARIOUS LANGUAGES!

- Rosetta project: <a href="https://archive.org/browse.php?field=subject&mediatype=t">https://archive.org/browse.php?field=subject&mediatype=t</a> exts&collection=rosettaproject
- Endangered Languages project:
  <a href="http://endangeredlanguages.com/">http://endangeredlanguages.com/</a>
- Language Landscape:
  <a href="http://www.languagelandscape.org/">http://www.languagelandscape.org/</a>