

## **SOCIOLINGUISTICS: BASIC TERMS**

### **Sociolinguistics**

- Meta-research
- Society, language, variety

### **Knowledge of a language**

- Code, grammar
- Competence and performance; communicative competence
- Language in use
- Linguistic variation

*TASK: Variation in greetings:*

*How do you greet your friends, your family, your colleagues, your professors, people you don't know?*

*Does the situation matter?*

*Do the ways of greeting you use / you don't use index a membership in particular groups?*

*Are there ways of greetings you find inappropriate?*

### **The social construction of identities**

- Identity
- Social identity
- How language constructs speaker's identity

*TASK: Describe your idiolect from the point of view of your individual and social identity (consider different situations).*

### **The relationship between language and culture (directions of the influence)**

1. The social structure determines the linguistic structure
2. The linguistic structure and behavior may influence the social structure or view Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis (Linguistic Determinism)

*TASK: Translatability: can you find certain words, phrases or structures in a foreign language which are difficult or impossible to translate? Do they only mean things which are not part of your original culture or are they concepts that are not found in your language?*

3. Correlation between the linguistic structure and the social structure, but it is not deterministic, causal.
4. Fill in ☺