VERANSTALTUNG IN DER EINFÜHRUNGSWOCHEN für Studierende des 1. Semesters

MA-Studiengang Linguistik – Einführung
Informationen zum Inhalt und Aufbau des Studiums, zur Moduleinschreibung etc.

Barbara Stiebels

Mittwoch, 9. Oktober 2019, 15:00-17:00 Uhr
SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15

MODULEINSCHREIBUNG

Die Einschreibung erfolgt ausschließlich online über das Einschreibesystem TOOL

in der Zeit vom 02.10.19 (12:00 Uhr) bis 09.10.19 (17:00 Uhr)

MODULE 04-046-2002 PHONOLOGY, MORPHOLOGY, SYNTAX

Phonology
Eva Zimmermann

Tuesday 09:15-10:45 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15

The minor goal of this course is to become familiar with the most important theoretical tools to approach the phonology of natural languages: Distinctive Features, autosegmental and prosodic representations, ordered rules, the cycle, and violable constraints. Its major goal is to learn applying all these tools rigorously and creatively to real data from natural languages.


Morphology
Anke Himmelreich

Wednesday 13:15-14:45 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15

In this seminar, we will discuss the most important concepts, terms, definitions and topics in the area of morphology - both from a descriptive as well as from a theoretical viewpoint. We will try to cover prototypical as well as problematic cases for many of the definitions and/or theoretical modelings to identify their advantages and disadvantages in each case. We will further discuss how the different frameworks of morphology model the interaction with other modules of grammar. Finally, we will take a closer look at some selected case studies and see how the concepts we discussed are made use of in some recently published sources to understand how they relate to current research questions.

Syntax
Imke Driemel

Starting date: November 8, 2019

This course aims at making students familiar with the most important aspects of the derivational syntactic theory often referred to as the “minimalist program” (Chomsky 1995) and modifications thereof (in particular the theory of “phases” of Chomsky 2000, 2001). We will address both the core theoretical concepts of the theory as well as their empirical (or conceptual) motivation, where possible. This also potentially comprises concepts that were proposed before Chomsky (1995) and which were incorporated into the theory (as, for instance, the concept of c-command or Larson’s theory of VP-shells).
Types of movement

**Gereon Müller/Andrew Murphy**

**Tuesday 17:15-18:45 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15**

Diagnosing movement is a central task of syntactic theory. By now, we have developed a set of diagnostics that allow us to classify movement dependencies into different types. However, the traditional binary distinction between A and A'-movement turns out to be somewhat coarse, with various types of movement heterogeneously showing mixed properties (e.g. Müller 1995). The goal of this seminar is to reevaluate this situation and work towards a more comprehensive theory of movement types in the current theoretical climate. In particular, it is necessary to consider not just the landing site of a movement dependency (A vs. A' position), but also the type of moved element (argument vs. adjunct, nominal vs. non-nominal, overt vs. covert) and the path of movement (long vs. short, proper vs. improper). In this course of the seminar, we will review relevant literature and empirical domains that bear on this issue, with special focus also given to null operator constructions and their relation to other A'-dependencies.

**Introductory reading:**

**Advanced reading:** To be announced

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**Grammatical Identity Effects**

**Gregory M. Kobele**

**Wednesday 09:15-10:45 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15**

We look at constructions involving some kind of grammatically relevant similarity, and discuss their properties and possible analyses. Examples include ellipsis, Suffixaufnahme, predicate clefting, the X-or-no-X construction, etc. These patterns are typically not able to be generated with usual grammatical operations, and demand that we extend our grammatical frameworks in various ways.

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**Recent Work in Morphology and Syntax**

**Gereon Müller**

**Friday 14:00-15:30 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15**

Starting date: October 25, 2019

In this colloquium, we discuss recent work in morphology and syntax that either goes back to the participants’ own research or has recently been published.

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**The typology of mood and modality**

**Barbara Stiebels**

**Tuesday 15:15-16:45 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15**

The seminar addresses the cross-linguistic encoding and use of mood (including both verbal mood such as indicative vs. subjunctive and sentence mood such as declarative vs. imperative (and its subtypes) vs. interrogative) and modality (involving notions such as obligation, necessity, possibility, probability etc.). The linguistic encoding of these categories includes affixes, clitics, modal particles, modals, modal tags, modal adverbs etc. In the first part of the semester we will have a deeper look into properties of these categories; later, we will study their cross-linguistic distribution. We will also discuss elicitation techniques for modality. Possible further topics are the use of mood and modality in conditionals or embedded clauses (= mood selection), the interaction with negation, tense etc.

**References:**
The typology of number
Barbara Stiebels
Wednesday 15:15-16:45 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15

This course is concerned with the formal and semantic properties of number (marking) in the world’s languages. We will address number categories (such as plural, dual, paucal, singulative etc.), number systems (e.g. augmented number), the exponence of number markers, the position of number in complex morphological structures, the role of countability for number marking, the role of sortal features for number marking, lexical number/collectives, number polarity, verbal number/pluractionality, the cross-linguistic variation regarding the categories that may be marked for number, number agreement and number resolution, the interaction of number and definiteness, number in classifier languages.

A further goal of this seminar is to exercise the steps that are necessary for a typological study of number marking (i.e., sampling, development of research variables, database design and evaluation of data).

References:

Colloquium Linguistic Typology
Barbara Stiebels
Thursday 11:15-12:45 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Starting date: October 24, 2019

The colloquium provides a forum to present and discuss ongoing research in linguistic typology. Presentations and suggestions for readings are welcome. The program will be fixed at the beginning of the semester.

MODULE 04-046-2034 RESEARCH INTERNSHIP
Special Module

The internship should involve some practical research activity in a linguistic research project (at the Institute of Linguistics or in some external linguistic project, e.g. at one of the Max-Planck institutes in Leipzig/Jena). Students learn to understand and apply linguistic research methods. Please clear up the details of the internship with Barbara Stiebels, Gereon Müller or Gregory Kobele. Since the internship is possible at any time, you should enrol for this module in the semester in which you intend to present your internship in a colloquium of the institute and write your internship report. The internship should involve at least 150 hours of practical work; the details of the internship (length, work load, tasks) should be confirmed by the internship supervisor in form an internship certificate. Note that only those internships comply with the requirements of the module that do not involve restrictions of secrecy wrt. to your activities and the applied research methods. If you will not be allowed to report on the central aspects of your practical work, you should look for some other internship.

Further courses of interest (without credits)

Tonal Morphology
Jochen Trommer
Thursday 09:15-10:45 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Starting date: October 24, 2019

In many tone languages (e.g. Maasai, Hausa, and Tonga), morphological categories are either partially or completely expressed by tone (Yip 2002:ch. 5.1, Hyman 2002). The goal of this course is a better understanding of this phenomenon, but also to use it as a magnifying lense to central phenomena of tonal phonology such as OCP- (dissimilation-) effects, opacity, downstep, or tonal underspecification, and to the morphosyntactic status of non-concatenative morphology in general. A special focus of the course are the complex tonal verb melodies of Bantu languages (Marlo 2013).

References:
Readings in Formal Linguistics  
Gregory M. Kobele

Monday 09:15-10:45 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15

This unattached colloquium is a reading group in some domain of formal (i.e. mathematical or computational) linguistics. The precise topic, as well as the readings, will be decided during the first class meeting.

Phonology Reading Group  
Jochen Trommer/Eva Zimmermann

Monday 17:15-18:45 SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Starting date: October 21, 2019

We meet every week to discuss recent and/or important work in phonology. Most of the time we agree on a paper that we all read and then discuss, but we also include talks/discussions about our own work in progress.