

Graduate school IGRA

Summer Term 2017

Courses open to all interested

IGRA 00

Instructor: Sandhya Sundaresan, Fabian Heck

Time: Friday, 11:00-13:00, SR H1 5.16

Topic: Foundations of Syntax

Description: This course will be an intensive introduction into syntax, set predominantly within the Minimalist framework (Chomsky 2000, Chomsky 2001, et seq). You will learn how to build syntactic structures, formulate syntactic dependencies and, above all, construct syntactic arguments. Concretely, we will look at core Minimalist concepts such as Merge/Move, Agree, (Relativized) Minimality, Strict Cycle Condition, Phase-locality and Cyclic SpellOut – and see how these can be fruitfully applied to derive a range of grammatical phenomena such as A and A-bar movement, case and phi-agreement, anaphora, control, and argument-structure, among others. The course will be very hands-on and involve frequent exercises and problem-solving – both in- and out of class.

[Chomsky, Noam. 2000. Minimalist inquiries: the framework. In *Step by Step: Essays on minimalism in honor of Howard Lasnik*, edited by Roger Martin, David Michaels, and Juan Uriagereka. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass. Chomsky, Noam. 2001. Derivation by phase. In *Ken Hale: A Life in Language*, edited by Michael Kenstowicz. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass.]

Textbooks:

- Adger, David, 2003. *Core syntax: A minimalist approach* (Vol. 33). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Koenenman, Olaf and Hedde Zeijlstra, 2017. *Introducing Syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Starting date: April 21, 2017

IGRA 01

Instructor: Fabian Heck, Barbara Stiebels, Eva Zimmermann

Time: Thursday, 15:15-16:45, SR H1 5.16

Topic: Interacting Building Blocks in Phonology, Morphology, and Syntax I: Excitatory and Inhibitory Sequential Interactions

Description: This course is concerned with techniques and effects of ordering rules in phonology, morphology, and syntax, based on concepts like bleeding, feeding, counter-bleeding, counter-feeding, strict cyclicity, strata, extrinsic/parochial ordering, specificity, elsewhere, blocking, phases, and constraints like Merge over Move. A recurrent theme will be the identification of common patterns in phonology, morphology, and syntax.

References:

- Chomsky, Noam (1951): Morphophonemics of Modern Hebrew. Master's thesis, University of Pennsylvania.
- Kiparsky, Paul (1973a): Abstractness, Opacity and Global Rules. In: O. Fujimura, ed., *Three Dimensions in Linguistic Theory*. TEC, Tokyo, pp. 57-86.
- Kiparsky, Paul (1973b): 'Elsewhere' in Phonology. In: S. Anderson & P. Kiparsky, eds., *A Festschrift for Morris Halle*. Academic Press, New York, pp. 93-106.

Starting date: April 13, 2017

IGRA 04

Instructor: Stefan T. Gries

Time: Monday, 11:15-12:45, SR H1 5.16

Topic: Key Skills II: Experimental Methods, Databases: Statistics for linguists

Description: This course offers a very hands-on introduction to statistical methods for the analysis of linguistic data (observational/corpus and experimental). We begin by looking at a few basic notions such as variables and hypotheses.

We then discuss the logic of quantitative studies in general, the design of factorial experiments in particular, and how to set up data subsequent statistical evaluation. In terms of analysis and evaluation, we explore a variety of descriptive graphs and statistics for frequency data, averages, dispersions, distributions, and correlations. The largest part of the course is concerned with hands-on practice on a variety of statistical tests: doing hands-on work at the computer, we will practice different methods each session such as distribution fitting tests, tests for independence, and tests for differences for frequencies, means, dispersions, distributions, and correlations. We use corpus- and psycholinguistic example data, sometimes from published research. This course uses the open source programming language R, and is based on the second edition of my book „Statistics for Linguistics with R“ (<http://www.amazon.com/dp/3110307286>), which students need to have to read the relevant chapters and use its sample data, exercises, answer keys, etc.

Starting date: April 3, 2017

IGRA 05

Instructor: Sandhya Sundaresan

Time: Thursday, 11:15-12.45, SR H1 5.16

Topic: Academic Skills for Linguists

Description: The goal of this PhD seminar within the IGRA Graduiertenkolleg will be to equip students with the skills required to conduct top-quality research in linguistics within the international arena. To this end, the course will focus on helping students hone their expertise in (at least) the following areas concerned with the writing, publishing, and presentation of linguistic research:

1. LaTeX skills: you will be taught the essential skills needed to conduct all your linguistic writing in the LaTeX programming language.
2. how to write a top-quality linguistic abstract: you will learn how package your theses and arguments in the most interesting and compelling manner within the assigned page limits and other abstract formatting guidelines.
3. how to write a top-quality (i.e. publishable in a top-tier journal) linguistics paper: what do you include, what do you not include, citation procedures, and most important of all, how do you reason from point A to point B in a clear and logically sound manner.
4. how to present a linguistics talk or poster at a conference: core presentation skills.

Course requirements: This course is mandatory for all PhD students within IGRA. MA students are also welcome to attend the course. Regular course attendance and participation are expected.

Starting date: April 13, 2017

IGRA 06

Instructor: Andrew Kostakis

Time: Tuesday, 13:15-14:45, SR H1 5.16

Topic: Topics in Phonology: The Phonology of Consonants

Description: This course will examine a range of empirical peculiarities that are exhibited by consonants in terms of place, manner, and voicing. We will critically discuss the way those segments have been treated in the scholarly literary and their bearing on phonological theory.

Starting date: April 4, 2017

Instructor: Jochen Trommer
Time: Thursday, 9:15-10:45, SR H1 5.16
Topic: Topics in Phonology: Pitch Accent
Description: Pitch accent languages are in some sense hybrids between word-stress and lexical tone systems, and are among the most controversial prosodic systems in current theoretical phonology and typology (see e.g. Hyman 2009). In this course we discuss a wide variety of different systems which have been labeled as pitch-accent (e.g. so-called 'restricted-tone languages' in Bantu, pitch-accent in Indo-European, and the Japanese system), and the major theoretical approaches.
References: - Hyman, Larry M. (2009) How (not) to do phonological typology: the case of pitch-accent. *Language Sciences* 31: 213–238.
Starting date: April 13, 2017

IGRA 07

Instructor: Gereon Müller
Time: Tuesday, 11:15-12:45, SR H1 5.16
Topic: Topics in Morphology: Harmonic Serialism
Description: This seminar is research-oriented. The main goals are (a) to study existing work carried out within the harmonic serialism version of optimality theory (McCarthy (2000, 2010)), in phonology, morphology, and syntax, and (b) to develop new research in morpho-syntax on this basis; here a possible focus might be on affix order.
Reading: - McCarthy, John & Joe Pater (eds.), *Harmonic Grammar and Harmonic Serialism*. Equinox Publishing, 2016.
More literature will be announced at the beginning of the semester.
Starting date: April 4, 2017

Instructor: Barbara Stiebels
Time: Tuesday, 15:15-16:45, SR H1 5.16
Topic: Topics in Morphology: Morpheme orders and morphological templates
Description: Morpheme orders often result from a complex interplay of semantic, syntactic, prosodic and morphological constraints. We will discuss the various approaches to morpheme orders and evaluate to what extent templatic approaches, which stipulate morpheme orders via arbitrary position classes, are justified. We will especially look at morpheme orders in the nominal and verbal domain: the order of derivational morphemes and number/case/definiteness/possessor agreement in nouns, the order of pronominal affixes, tense/aspect/modality/mood, diathesis markers and adverbial categories in the verb. We will not only focus on concatenative morphology but also discuss the role of morpheme order in non-concatenative morphology, in portmanteau morphemes and in suppletion.
References: given in class
Starting date: April 4, 2017

IGRA 07 and IGRA 08

Instructor: Stefan T. Gries
Time: Monday, 15:15-16:45, SR H1 5.16
Topic: Topics in Syntax/Topics in Morphology: Corpus linguistics
Description: This course is a practical introduction to using computer programming to explore large data bases of language used in natural communicative settings to supplement more traditional ways of linguistic analysis in all linguistic sub-disciplines. In the first part of this particular class, we begin

with a theoretical introduction: what is a corpus / what are corpora, what kinds of corpora are there and how are they created/compiled, and why would one use corpora in the first place? In the second part, we familiarize ourselves with the open source programming language R. In the third part, we read a variety of published corpus-linguistic studies as well as replicate, modify, or extend them. The topics we cover include syntax (patterns and alternations), lexis/semantics (key words in different cultures and near synonymy), psycholinguistics (disfluencies and first language acquisition), and others. This course is based on the second edition of my textbook „Quantitative corpus linguistics with R“ (<https://www.amazon.com/dp/1138816280/>), which students need to have to read the relevant chapters and use its sample data, exercises, answer keys, etc.

Starting date: April 3, 2017

Instructor: Gereon Müller, Andrew Murphy
Time: Tuesday, 17:15-18:45, SR H1 5.16
Friday, 9:15-10:45, SR H1 5.16
Topic: Topics in Syntax/Topics in Morphology: Ellipsis and Inflection
Description: In this seminar, we will discuss the question to what extent ellipsis phenomena interact with the presence or absence of inflectional morphology.
Reading: will be announced at the beginning of the semester
Note: The class will meet twice per week, but only in the second part of the semester.

IGRA 08

Instructor: Gereon Müller
Time: Tuesday, 17:15-18:45, SR H1 5.16
Friday, 9:15-10:45, SR H1 5.16
Topic: Topics in Syntax: Non-canonical Agreement
Description: In this course, we will look at unusual cases of agreement in natural language, and see how they can be accounted for in grammatical theory. A focus will be on non-canonical agreement in Northeast Caucasian languages, including long-distance agreement, agreement spreading, and multiple exponence.
Reading: will be announced at the beginning of the semester
Note: The class will meet twice per week, but only in the first part of the semester.
Starting date: April 4, 2017

IGRA 09

Instructor: Paul Kiparsky (Stanford University)
Topic: *Visiting Professorship Course: Stratal OT in Phonology and Morphology*
Time: compact course:
07.07.: 17:15-18:45;
17.,18., 20. + 21.07.: 10:15-11:45
SR H1 5.16

IGRA Colloquium

Instructors: Gereon Müller & IGRA-faculty
Time: Wednesday, 17:15-18:45, SR H1 5.16

Description: A series of guest lectures by scholars working on aspects of the interaction of grammatical building blocks. These talks are primarily for the graduate students of IGRA, but they are open to all.

Starting date: April 26, 2017

Further courses of interest

Topic: Phonology reading group

Instructor: Jochen Trommer & Eva Zimmermann

Time: Monday, 17:15-18:45, SR H1 5.16

Description: 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.

Starting date: April 3, 2017

Topic: Colloquium theory of grammar

Instructor: Gereon Müller

Time: Friday, 14:00-16:00, SR H1 5.16

Starting date: April 21, 2017