

Graduate school (IGRA / CYCLOP)

Winter Term 2022/23

Courses open to all interested

IGRA 06

Topic: Topics in Phonology: Phonology
Instructor: Jochen Trommer
Time: Thursday, 9:15-10:45, NSG, S 213
Description: 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.
References:
- Kenstowicz, M. (1994) *Phonology in Generative Grammar*. Cambridge MA: Blackwell.
- Kager, R. (1999) *Optimality Theory*. Cambridge University Press.
Starting date: October 13, 2022

IGRA 07

Topic: Topics in Morphology:
The Mirror Principle and the relation between syntax and morphology
Instructors: Maria Kouneli & Philipp Weisser
Time: Tuesday, 13:15-14:45, NSG, S 213
Description: The Mirror Principle (Muysken 1981, Baker 1985) is arguably one of the most influential and most discussed principles of grammar and in the years since its proposal, it has led to a controversial discussion about the relation between syntax and morphology. As a result, current syntactic and morphological frameworks now differ substantially as to whether the Mirror Principle is a core tenet of the framework itself, as to whether it is an additional (potentially violable) 'plug-in' or as to whether its existence is disputed and apparent Mirror-Principle-Effects are explained away (e.g. as effects of diachrony, etc). In this seminar, we will look at this discussion in detail in order to get an overview about the matters under discussion. Some of the questions we will discuss concern the empirical validity of the Mirror Principle, its scope, its origins and the significance of various counterexamples and their nature and systematicity. Finally, of course, we will also discuss what our findings mean against the background of the above-mentioned discussion about the relation between syntax and morphology.
Starting date: October 11, 2022

IGRA 08

Topic: Topics in Syntax: Free Word Order
Instructors: Paula Fenger, Gereon Müller & Mariia Privizentseva
Time: Tuesday, 17:15-18:45, NSG, S 127 and
Wednesday, 13:15-14:45, NSG, S 302
Description: In this seminar, we will discuss free word order phenomena in syntactic systems of the world's languages, with a focus on the various theoretical approaches designed to account for them (including, of course, scrambling and variable base generation).
References: Will be announced at the beginning of the semester
Starting date: October 18, 2022

Topic: Topics in Syntax: Syntax
Instructor: Fabian Heck
Time: The course will take place in a compact form in January/February 2023
Thursday 15:15-16:45, 17:15-18:45, HSG, HS 16 and
Friday 09:15-10:45, 11:15-12:45, HSG, HS 17

Description: The purpose of this course is twofold. First, it is supposed to make students who just entered the MA-program in linguistics in Leipzig (and who did not take the introductory syntax course in module 04-006-1003) familiar with the most fundamental properties of the derivational syntactic theory usually referred to as the "Minimalist Program" (MP; mostly based on Chomsky 1995, 2000, 2001). Second, it aims at addressing further topics within this theory that are not covered by the introductory course. Such topics may (but need not) include binding (Principle A, B, C), cyclicity (the cycle, strict cyclicity, tucking-in), locality (MLC, PIC, Freezing, Leap Frogging), Agree (upward, downward, cyclic, gluttonic, multiple), copies (reconstruction, linearization), case (alignment systems, dependent case), labeling. The concrete syllabus can be adopted to the students' needs.

Starting date: January 5, 2023

IGRA Colloquium

Instructors: Gereon Müller & IGRA-faculty
Time: Wednesday, 15:15-16:45, NSG, S 213
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: November 10, 2022

Further courses of interest

Topic: Phonology reading group
Instructor: Jochen Trommer
Time: Monday, 11:15-12:45, NSG, S 213
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: October 10, 2022

Topic: Introduction to neural networks and machine learning for linguists
Instructor: Eric Rosen
Time: Monday, 15:15-16:45, NSG, S 215
Description: Participants in the course will be given some introductory theoretical background on various types of neural networks and machine learning methods. They will also be given hands-on experience in programming in Python and Python's machine learning module Pytorch in designing and experimenting with models that solve various linguistic problems.
It is suitable for graduate students and advanced undergraduate students who have completed basic courses in phonology, morphology and syntax.
Starting date: October 10, 2022

Topic: Semantics colloquium
Instructor: Gregory M. Kobele
Time: Tuesday, 11:15-12:45, NSG, S 213
Description: The colloquium will read papers and discuss issues related to the semantics seminar(s).
Starting date: October 11, 2022

Topic: Recent Work in Morphology and Syntax
Instructor: Gereon Müller
Time: Friday, 14:00-15:30, HSG, HS 20
Description: In this colloquium, we discuss recent work in morphology and syntax that either goes back to the participants's own research or has recently been published.
Starting date: October 21, 2022