

Masterstudiengang Linguistik (Linguistics)

Summer semester 2025

Stand: 19/2/2025

Please also check the information on our [Homepage](#).

MODULEINSCHREIBUNG – Module enrolment

You must register for all modules and courses that you would like to take. To register for modules or courses, you will have to do so via [TOOL](#)

between March 26, 2025 (12:00) and March 31, 2025 (17:00)

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.uni-leipzig.de/en/studying/current-students/module-registration/>

Freshman orientation

Information on study regulations and module enrolment.

Gregory M. Kobele

March 26, 2025 13:00–14:00 o'clock
Room H1 5.15, GWZ, Beethovenstraße 15

Please contact Gregory Kobele in case you can attend the freshman orientation only via Zoom.

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.philol.uni-leipzig.de/en/institute-of-linguistics/study/starting-linguistics>

Module recommendations for first semester students

We recommend the advanced modules *Morphology* (04-046-2010), *Segmental Phonology* (04-046-2013) and *Grammatical Perspectives on Cognition* (04-046-2026). Alternatively, you could enrol for a module from a different department (e.g., English studies, German studies). However, you have to check whether you would be admitted to the module (in terms of required qualifications and teaching capacities). In addition, you have to apply for taking that module by submitting this [Antrag](#) to the chair of the exams committee (Prof. Heck). If you are interested in taking the special module *Research internship* (04-046-2034), you should do so in a higher semester.

MODULE 04-046-2010

MORPHOLOGY
Advanced Module

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Paula Fenger

Tuesday 11:15-12:45 NSG, S 413

In this seminar we will focus on zero in morphology. First of all, we will look at different phenomena, such as conversion (no overt morphophonology, but contentful morphosyntax), and the opposite, namely default marking (overt morphophonology, but empty morphosyntax); as well as other phenomena such as non-concatenative morphology (no overt affixes, but overt morphophonological processes), and zero morphology in inflectional paradigms. This will then lead to a discussion on the status of zero in different theories (does it exist or not?), and at the same time also leads to a discussion of how features, morphemes or exponents can be added or deleted during the derivation, and what can block the (dis)appearance of a morpheme.

Cyclic Optimization in Morphology**Gereon Müller**

Tuesday 17:15-18:45 NSG, S 127

This seminar will look at conceptions of cyclicity in inflectional morphology. It will also focus on optimization procedures that have been suggested (specificity, optimality, etc.). And it will address the question how cyclicity and optimization interact in morphological derivations.

Reading: Will be announced at the beginning of the semester

Participants: master students, doctoral students

Recent Work in Morphology and Syntax**Gereon Müller**

Friday 14:00-15:30 HSG, HS 20

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.

Participants: The colloquium is open to all

MODULE 04-046-2013**SEGMENTAL PHONOLOGY**

Advanced Module

Phonology Reading Group**Jochen Trommer**

Monday 11:15-12:45 NSG S 213

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.

Stratal Phonology**Jochen Trommer**

Thursday 9:15-10:45 NSG, S 213

Stratal Phonology (comprising Lexical Phonology and Stratal Optimality Theory) is one of the most influential approaches to the interface between morphosyntax and phonology. In this course, we discuss the basic architecture of the theory, possible alternatives, and controversial design choices in the implementation of stratal approaches.

Readings:

- Bermúdez-Otero, R. (2018) Stratal phonology. In Hannahs, S. and Bosch, A. R. K. (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Phonological Theory*, 100–134. Routledge, Abingdon.
- Rubach, J. (2008). An overview of lexical phonology. *Language and Linguistics Compass* 2/3, 456–477.
- Trommer, J. (2025) Stratal Phonology. Ms. Leipzig University.

Locality Domains of Segmental Harmony Processes**Jochen Trommer**

Thursday 13:15-14:45 NSG, S 211

Harmony processes typically show complex restrictions on their domain of application. In this course, we discuss data from vowel harmony, consonant harmony and nasal harmony, different approaches to locality domains in terms of prosody, strata, syntactic phases and postsyntactic linearization domains, and possible alternative explanations. An additional goal is to get acquaintance with the broad array of possible harmony processes in the world's languages.

Readings:

- Archangeli, D. & Pulleyblank, D. (2002) Kinande vowel harmony: Domains, grounded conditions, and one-sided alignment. *Phonology*, 19:139–188.
- Fenger P., Kouneli M. & Bobaljik, J. (2024) Dominant domains in Vowel Harmony. Ms. Leipzig University.
- Moskal, B. (2015) Domains on the border: Between Morphology and Phonology. PhD thesis, UConn.
- Rose, S. and Walker, R. (2011) Harmony systems. In Goldsmith, J., Riggle, J., and Yu, A. C. L. (eds.) *The Handbook of Phonological Theory*, 240–290. Blackwell.

MODULE 04-046-2026**GRAMMATICAL PERSPECTIVES ON COGNITION**

Advanced Module

Reading group on lexical rules across formalisms**Gregory M. Kobele**

Monday 9:15-10:45 NSG, S 213

We will read and discuss papers about mechanisms for relating complex words to each other across formalisms. In the context of a pre-syntactic morphology, these can be thought of as *lexical redundancy rules*.

Decomposition in syntax

Wednesday 13:15-14:45 NSG, S 111

Gregory M. Kobele

Grammars in the transformational tradition have a uniquely 'decompositional' style, whereby what other grammatical traditions view as unanalyzable wholes are broken up ('decomposed') into more atomic primitives. But how does this style of analysis work? What is the logic underlying decomposition? And can studying it shed light on other domains of grammar? We will see how the decompositional style of analysis can be broken down into simple, more primitive operations, and how to derive standard decompositional analyses mechanically from basic dependency structures. We will see how to view decomposition as a generalization of head movement, and how this unifies early- and late-insertion perspectives on the syntax-morphology interface.

Linking theories

Friday 11:15-12:45 NSG, S 113

Gregory M. Kobele

Linguistic grammars are a representation of our linguistic competence, sometimes called our 'knowledge of language'. The great gambit of theoretical linguistics is the assumption that linguistic grammars are causally implicated in our linguistic behaviour - grammar is then the greatest common denominator of behaviour. However, the relationship between grammar and simple acceptability judgements is fraught - grammatical sentences can be unacceptable, ungrammatical ones acceptable, and it seems even that acceptability is more of a continuum than of a categorical distinction. In this course, we study how to make the connection between grammar and data (explicit) – *linking theories*. Our main interest will be in general accounts that extend to different modes of linguistic behaviour.

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). Students learn to understand and apply linguistic research methods. Please clear up the details of the internship with Paula Fenger. 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. The presentation of the internship will be scheduled for the last week of the lecture period or the first week of the following semester break. At the point of presentation the internship has to be finished.