

Lehrangebot WS 2011/2012

Lehrveranstaltungen von Prof. Dr. Sigrid Beck

Hauptseminar:

Introduction to Semantics

Thursday 9 – 12 h, October 20, 2011 – February 2, 2012, room 027

The course provides an introduction to modern formal semantic theory. We discuss how to compositionally interpret English sentences and introduce an analysis of such fundamental phenomena as quantification, modification and presupposition.

References: Heim, Irene and Angelika Kratzer (1998): *Semantics in Generative Grammar*. Blackwell.

Please note: There will be a tutorial for those students who signed up for the course. It will be taught by Konstantin Sachs. The attendance of the tutorial is strongly recommended. Time and room to be announced.

Prerequisites: Some background in syntax, basic set theory, i.e. a "Schein" in Syntax or in Syntax & Semantics, which you will need to bring on the first day of class. (No exceptions.)

Requirements: Examination(s) according to the BA/MA/LA requirements.

Registration: Central web registration via Campus from July 18 through July 29.

Oberseminar:

New Research in Semantics

Tuesday 10 – 12 h, October 18, 2011 – January 31, 2012, room 306

New theories of a semantic area to be selected will be discussed.

References: A reading list will be made available in the first session.

Prerequisites: Hauptseminar "Introduction to Semantics".

Requirements: Examination(s) according to the BA/MA/LA requirements.

Registration: Personal registration with Professor Beck.

Lehrveranstaltungen von PD Dr. Remus Gergel

Hauptseminar: Corpus Linguistics

Tuesday 16 – 18 h, October 18, 2011 – January 31, 2012, room 306

Corpora (collections of written or spoken sentences from various sources) are a useful testing ground for discovering facts about the grammar of a language, the variation it contains, and the change that it may be undergoing. Participants in this seminar will gain insight into using some of the major corpora of English. After a brief discussion of key structural issues, the seminar subdivides into three subparts. We will consider (i) historical data (focusing on Early Modern, Elizabethan English), (ii) Late-Modern and Present-Day English data; (iii) we will discuss some statistical notions to quantify over the developments we observe. The practical goal will be for participants to develop and present a small corpus study regarding an interesting point of variation in the grammar of English.

Prerequisites: A PS in Syntax (and Semantics) or equivalent.

Requirements: Examination(s) according to the BA/MA/LA requirements.

Registration: Central web registration via Campus from July 18 through July 29.

Examenskolloquium - Colloquium for Candidates

Thursday 14 – 16 h, October 20, 2011 – February 2, 2012, room 119

Preparation for final exams in linguistics.

This course is for students taking their final exam (Staatsexamen) in SPRING 2012 with Prof. Sigrid Beck or Dr. Remus Gergel.

Proseminare WS 2011/2012

Acquisition of Meaning

Vera Hohaus, M.A.

Monday 18 – 20 h, October 17, 2011 – December 19, 2011, room 05

The aim of this course is to explore syntactic and semantic theory within the context of first language acquisition.

References: William O'Grady (1997), *Syntactic Development*, Chicago: UCP.

William Snyder (2007), *Child Language: The Parametric Approach*, Oxford: OUP.

Brian MacWhinney (1999), *The Childes Project. Tools for Analyzing Talk*, London: Lawrence Erlbaum, Volumes 1 and 2.

Barbara Hall Partee, Alice G. ter Meulen and Roger E. Wall (1994), *Mathematical Methods in Linguistics*, Berlin: Springer (selected chapters).

Requirements: Regular attendance and active participation aside, weekly hands-on exercises, a midterm exam, and a final written examination. There will be a tutorial accompanying this class. Attendance is strongly recommended. Please note that the last session is on December 12, 2011. In addition, we will meet on Saturday, October 29, 2011 (9.30 am to 1 pm) and on Saturday, November 26, 2011 (9.30 am to 1 pm).

Registration: Central web registration via Campus from July 18 through July 29.

Structure and Meaning

Nadine Bade, M.A.

Tuesday 18 – 20 h, October 18, 2011 – January 31, 2012, room 05

The course provides an introduction to the sentence structures of English and the way that those structures are interpreted. We discuss how English phrases and clauses are built (complementation, modification, movement). Then we investigate how such structures are assigned an interpretation in a systematic fashion. There will be a tutorial for this course, it is recommended that you attend the tutorial. Room and time will be announced.

References: Radford, Andrew: *Transformational Grammar*, Cambridge Textbooks in Linguistics (selected chapters).

Prerequisites: Lecture "Introduction to Linguistics". If this is your second Proseminar in linguistics, you need the following prerequisites: A first Proseminar in linguistics, Lecture "Introduction to Linguistics", Language and Use.

Requirements: Regular attendance and active participation, two homework assignments, a final written exam

Registration: Central web registration via Campus from July 18 through July 29.