Graduate school IGRA

Summer Term 2018

Courses open to all interested

IGRA 01

Instructor:	Barbara Stiebels, Joanna Zaleska & Philipp Weisser
Time:	Thursday, 13:15-14:45, SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
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, Universiy 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 19, 2018

IGRA 04

Instructor:	Jana Häussler
Time:	Tuesday, 15:15-16.45, SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Topic:	Key Skills II: Experimental Methods, Databases: Empirical Methods
Description:	This course is an introduction to empirical methods applied to linguistic issues. The emphasis is on experimental methods, but we will discuss corpus analysis and field work as well. Students will learn to obtain and organize linguistic data, construct and test hypotheses about it, and report the findings. This includes statistical analyses using R (a programming language and software environment for statistical analyses and graphics). Students will carry out small scale experiments and write up a research plan as well as a report.
References:	- Krug, M. & Schlüter, J. (eds) (2013). Research methods in language variation and change. Cambridge: CUP. - Levshina, N. (2015). How to do linguistics with R. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins. - Podesava, R. J. & Sharma, D. (eds) (2013). Research methods in linguistics. Cambridge: CUP.
Starting date:	April 10, 2018

IGRA 05

Instructor:	Anke Himmelreich
Time:	Monday, 13:15-14.45, SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
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 9, 2018

IGRA 06

Instructor:	Jochen Trommer
Time:	Thursday, 09:15-10:45, SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Topic:	Topics in Phonology: Phrasal Tone
Description:	The bulk of phonological processes in the languages of the world happens inside of words. The major exception to this trend are tonal alternations at the phrase level, which therefore offer a unique opportunity to study the interaction of syntax and phonology. The goal of this course is to give an empirical overview on the crosslinguistic range of phrasal tone processes, but also to introduce the major current theories of the phonology-syntax interface.
References:	- Downing, Laura J. & Annie Rialland (Hrsg.) (2017) *Intonation in African Tone Languages.* Berlin: Walter de Gruyter.
	- McPherson, L. & Heath, J. (2016) Phrasal grammatical tone in the Dogon languages The role of constraint interaction. *NLLT* 34(2): ,593–639.
	- Sharon Inkelas and Draga Zec (1990) *The Phonology Syntax Connection.* Chicago University Press.
	- Kaisse, E. M. (1985) *Connected speech: the Interaction of Syntax and Phonology.* New York: Academic Press.
	- Pak, M. (2008) *The Postsyntactic Derivation and its Phonological Reflexes.* PhD thesis, UPenn.
	- Seidl, A. (2001) *Minimal Indirect Reference: a Theory of the Syntax-Phonology-Interface.* New York: Routledge.

Starting date: April 12, 2018

Instructor:	Jochen Trommer
Time:	Monday, 17:15-18:45, SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Topic:	Topics in Phonology: Polarity
Description:	In phonological polarity, phonological values of (parts of) a morpheme assume the opposite values (e.g. voiced vs. unvoiced), depending on the phonological and/or morphological context, to underlying or surface values of the same feature. Whereas segmental and prosodic polarity is a relatively marginal process, tonal polarity is a pervasive property of tone languages raising crucial questions on the phonology-morphology interface and the formal nature of dissimilation processes, and will form the central part of this course.
References:	- De Lacy, P. (2012) Morpho-phonological Polarity. In: Jochen Trommer (ed.) *The Morphology and Phonology of Exponence.* Oxford University Press, 121-159.
	- Cahill, M. (2004) Tone Polarity in Konni Nouns. *Studies in African Linguistics* 33(1):1-33.
	- Hantgan, A. (2009) Does Tone Polarity Exist? Evidence From Plural Formation among Bangime Nouns. *Indiana University Working Papers in Linguistics* 8:69-83.
	- Suzuki, K. (1998) *A Typological Investigation of Dissimilation.* PhD thesis, University of Arizona, Tucson.
	- Topintzi, N. (2008) Weight Polarity in Ancient Greek and other Languages. *Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Greek Linguistics 2007,* 503-517.

Starting date: April 9, 2018

IGRA 07 and IGRA 08

Instructors: Jana Häussler, Martin Salzmann & Philipp Weisser
Time: Tuesday, 11:15-12:45 and Friday, 11:15-12:45, SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Topic: Topics in Morphology/Topics in Syntax: Theoretical and psycholinguistic approaches to case and word order
Description: The linear order of constituents in the clause is determined by various factors. In these two jointly taught seminars, which form one coherent course, we will focus on the role of case in argument encoding and its influence on word order.

We will approach this question from both a theoretical and a psycholinguistic (acquisition, processing) angle, trying to find out where the two perspectives inform, contradict or complement each other, with the ultimate goal of deepening our understanding in both areas.

An obvious starting point is the well-known correlation between the availability of morphological case (and/or agreement) and the possibility of free word order. This relationship is easily stated in prose and well-researched in psycholinguistic work but by no means trivial to model theoretically. Further possible topics include (but are not limited to):
- ergative vs. accusative languages (nature of the ergative case, base order)
- case attraction in grammar and parsing (direct and inverse)
- structural vs. inherent (lexical) cases
- long wh-extraction (how case can facilitate long extraction)
- pseudo noun-incorporation
- differential object marking
- syntactic ambiguities/syncretism (subject-object, object-object ambiguities)
- disambiguation and reanalysis (role of disambiguating information; e.g. case versus number agreement)
- structure-based versus expectation/frequency-based parsing
- Cue validity, cue weight

While case has been intensely studied in both disciplines, there are quite a number of areas where theoretical proposals have not yet been subjected to empirical (psycholinguistic) verification. Possible topics for seminar papers may thus include experiments that aim at testing the predictions of particular theoretical proposals (with the challenge being to find a method that is suitable to test the predictions).

Conversely, psycholinguistic observations may also be the trigger to rethink our theoretical assumptions.

Starting date: April 10, 2018

IGRA 08

Instructor: Sandhya Sundaresan
Time: Thursday, 11:15-12:45, SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Topic: Topics in Syntax: Topics in A-Syntax
Description: Within the generative framework, structural positions are traditionally distinguished as being A(rgument) vs. A-bar. The former are positions that can be occupied by arguments, thus can be assigned a theta-role; the latter form an Elsewhere or negative category, denoting positions that are not A positions. This binary division has major implications for operations in syntax and the rules that apply to them: e.g. movement (A movement is typically bounded within finite clauses, while A-bar movement is not), Case assignment (only available for A positions), argument structure, agreement, and binding, among others.

This course will focus on the syntax of A positions. We will examine a series of phenomena that affect and involve A positions such as: phi-agreement, case, argument-structure, control, raising, EPP, object shift and certain types of scrambling. Time permitting, we will also look at some recent works that call into question the status (A vs. A-bar) of certain types of syntactic operation and suggest that a hybrid approach may be called for.

Starting date: April 19, 2018

IGRA 09

Instructor: Julie Anne Legate
Topic: *Visiting Professorship Course:* Beyond Active Voice: Variation and Argumentation
Time: compact course: 4th July: 11:15;
                                          6th July: 13:15;
                                          10th July: 11:15;
                                          13th July: 15:15;
                                          16th, 17th, 18th July: 13:15
SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Description: Recent research has demonstrated remarkable variation in the typology of voices that are not active, including for example multiple types of passives, impersonals, object voice, and embedded voices. This class situates these constructions in a framework of morphosyntactic variation, examines the tests and argumentation used as diagnostics, and discusses serveral case-studies in depth.

IGRA Colloquium

Instructors: IGRA-faculty
Time: Wednesday, 17:15-18:45, SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
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: May 30, 2018

Further courses of interest

Topic: Colloquium: Topics in Syntax and its interfaces
Instructor: Sandhya Sundaresan & Fabian Heck
Time: Tuesday, 13:15-14:45, SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Starting date: April 17, 2018

Topic: Phonology reading group
Instructor: Jochen Trommer
Time: Thursday, 15:15-16:45, SR H1 5.16, Beethovenstraße 15
Starting date: April 12, 2018

Important websites

Department of Linguistics ULeipzig:

- Events (workshops, conferences): https://linguistik.philol.uni-leipzig.de/veranstaltungen/
- Lectures: https://igra.philol.uni-leipzig.de/en/events/courses/
- Colloquia: https://linguistik.philol.uni-leipzig.de/veranstaltungen/institutskolloquien/

Important mailing lists

Department of Linguistics ULeipzig:

Mailing list "Lingtalk" for information about all linguistic events. Go to this link.
PhD students will be added automatically.