

Current courses

- **The structure of English: The verbs phrase and the noun phrase**

This lecture introduces you to the descriptive grammar of the English verb phrase (or VP) and the English noun phrase (or NP). We discuss what grammatical features are encoded on the English verb and on the English noun, and how these features determine the construction of the VP and the NP. We also study some of the variation that is observable within the internal structure of the English verb phrase and the noun phrase.

- **Targeting the verb phrase**

This seminar is one of the two follow-up seminars to the lecture The structure of English: The noun phrase and the verb phrase. This semester, we focus on topics concerning the grammar of the English verb phrase.

- **Targeting the noun phrase**

This seminar is one of the two follow-up seminars to the lecture The structure of English: The noun phrase and the verb phrase. This semester, we focus on topics concerning the grammar of the English noun phrase.

- **Challenging grammar**

This seminar offers a sightseeing tour around the grammar of certain designated English constructions, focusing on what is often referred to as the syntax-semantics interface. We will be interested in what grammatically relevant meaning features are coded in these constructions and how these features are expressed through structure. We simply raise certain basic questions, and discuss them in the context of the English language, keeping an eye on other languages we know, without introducing any particular theoretical framework of analysis. The course itself is a walk through selected areas of English grammar, including some well-known and some less well-known constructions that will illustrate some of the potential that language has to combine forms and meanings.

- **Exploring the structure of language**

This seminar introduces you to the world of contemporary research in syntax, morphology and semantics. We focus on phenomena that have played a role in the development in linguistic theory, and that represent aspects of the English language that require attention also in the context of the classroom.

Our fundamental aim is to strengthen our capacity to understand how linguistic constructions are constrained, and we also learn about how we can make meaningful arguments in linguistically relevant issues. We also investigate some the assumptions that govern recent trends in linguistic research.

- **Child language**

This course aims at introducing students into designated issues in state-of-the-art first language acquisition research. We will particularly be interested in how this research is integrated into current trends in linguistics. After an introductory discussion of the most important theoretical and methodological issues in child language research, the course will essentially cover representative case studies in the area of the interface between syntax and semantics/pragmatics.

The major questions to be addressed throughout are as follows:

- *What are the primary adult English data in the respective fields?*
- *How do English children differ from adults in these areas of grammar and what developmental patterns do they show?*
- *What methodological complications may arise during research?*
- *How can we best account for the observed child grammars?*
- *What is the share of labour between grammar and other cognitive modules in the acquisition of these structures?*

- **Syntax**

This course introduces you into contemporary directions in syntactic research, and into the nature of syntactic argumentation and theorizing.

All courses taught

BA/Teacher training MA

- Vocabulary building
- Grammar in context
- The structure of English: The noun phrase and the verb phrase
- Targeting the noun phrase
- Targeting the verb phrase
- Introduction to linguistics
- Challenging grammar
- Advanced topics in language studies: Ambiguity
- Child language
- Morphology and syntax
- Human-computer communication

English linguistics MA

- Terms and concepts in literary and linguistic theory
- Advanced research methods in linguistics
- Argument structure
- Trends in linguistic, literary and cultural studies
- Syntax

English linguistics PhD

- Presentation skills
- Language acquisition
- Aspect and argument structure in generative syntax
- Topics in Minimalism 1: Interface strategies
- Syntax