The syntax of functional left peripheries

Lehrkraft: Dr. Dr. Julia Bacskai-Atkari
Leistungspunkte: 6/8/9
Semester: Wintersemester 2020
Zeit: Dienstag 10.00–11.30
Ort: R513

Description
The aim of this course is to provide an overview of the syntax of functional left peripheries, introducing students to the most important issues concerning the topic that have been addressed in the literature from the 1970s onwards. In particular, we are going to discuss the role of syntactic features, Doubly Filled COMP in embedded interrogatives, relative clauses, various comparison constructions, as well as the role of information structure and ellipsis. The main focus of this class is on West Germanic languages.

Languages
● classes: English
● assignments: English or German
● contact: English or German (please choose the language you are more competent in, i.e. ***please write in German if your first language is German***)

Literature
There is no set textbook for the course; during the semester, various articles will be discussed, which you may want to read: however, it is not necessary that you read them in advance. For an overview of modern generative syntax, you may find the following book useful:
Carnie, Andrew. 2013. *Syntax: A generative introduction*. 3rd edition. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

Requirement: the exact requirements are dependent on whether you need 6, 8 or 9 credits.

- For 6 credits:
  - a home paper

- For 8 credits:
  - a home paper
  - a presentation (unassessed)

- For 9 credits:
  - a home paper: 70%
  - a reading assignment: 30%

Below you find additional information on the individual requirements.

Home paper
- Length: at least 10 pages (ca. 4000–5000 words)
- Possible topics: see the relevant task sheet
- Language: English or German
- Deadline: 31 March 2021

Reading assignment

- It is based on the following article: Kayne, Richard S. 2011. Why Are There No Directionality Parameters? In: Mary Byram Washburn et al. (eds.) *Proceedings of the 28th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*. Somerville, MA: Cascadilla Proceedings Project. 1–23.
- Language: English or German
- Deadline: 14 December 2020

Presentation

- 15–20 minutes
- Possible topics (articles) given in the relevant task sheet
- Language: English
- Available dates: see the relevant sheet

Preliminary schedule:

03.11.2020	Introduction
10.11.2020	A feature-based approach to functional left peripheries I
17.11.2020	A feature-based approach to functional left peripheries II
24.11.2020	Doubly Filled COMP effects in interrogatives I
01.12.2020	Doubly Filled COMP effects in interrogatives II
08.12.2020	CONSOLIDATION WEEK
15.12.2020	The left periphery of relative clauses I
22.12.2020	The left periphery of relative clauses II
12.01.2021	Equatives, comparatives and the marking of polarity I
19.01.2021	Equatives, comparatives and the marking of polarity II
26.01.2021	Equatives, comparatives and the marking of polarity III
02.02.2021	Elliptical constructions and the role of information structure I
09.02.2021	Elliptical constructions and the role of information structure II