Syllabus

THE SYNTAX AND SEMANTICS OF DITRANSITIVITY - 36873

Last update 26-03-2014

HU Credits: 3

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Linguistics

Academic year: 3

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Nora Boneh

Coordinator Email: bonehn@mscc.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tue, Thur, upon request

Teaching Staff:
Dr. Nora Boneh
Course/Module description:
This course focuses on ditransitive constructions and explores how different approaches dealing with the mapping from form to meaning uncover the semantic subcomponents at play in these constructions. In particular, we will be concerned with how the surface realization of the third argument in ditransitive constructions is indicative of the way the assumed semantic subcomponents are packaged together.

Course/Module aims:
1. Study the structural and interpretative properties of ditransitives
2. Understand the divide between selected and non-selected datives
3. Shed light on the divide between the lexicon and the syntax

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
1. Form a generalization based on data description
2. Formulate hypotheses concerning syntactic structure
3. Compare competing theories
4. Examine the validity of an argument

Attendance requirements(%):
100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: lecture

Course/Module Content:
Part 1: The Dative Alternation:
   a. Syntactic properties
   b. Argument mapping to syntactic positions
   c. Semantic properties
   d. Cross-linguistic variation
   e. Interim summary: encoding of the third argument

Part 2 Non-Selected Datives
   a. Overview, semantic properties
   b. Syntactic properties: Applicatives
   c. Cross-linguistic variation
   d. Summary: new proposal
Required Reading:
Bresnan, Joan & Tatiana Nikitina. 2009. “The gradience of the dative alternation”. In


Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 20 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 60 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 20 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information:
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