

## Contrastive Linguistics: Syntax & Lexicon (A004225)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 6.0**

**Study time 180 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024**

A (semester 1)

English

Gent

independent work  
seminar

**Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024**

Barddal, Johanna

LW06

lecturer-in-charge

Bardagil Mas, Bernat

LW06

co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024**

[Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics \(main subject Linguistics in a Comparative Perspective\)](#)

**crdts**

6

**offering**

A

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

syntax, lexicon, comparative linguistics, verbs, case, dative

**Position of the course**

The course provides a specialization in the comparative study of the relationship between lexicon and syntax.

**Contents**

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with different theoretical approaches to the relationship between lexicon and syntax in comparative linguistics.

These theoretical approaches are illustrated by means of different hypotheses on the dative case and the corresponding morpho-syntactic structures in non-case languages. Several types of dative structures are analyzed, such as the double object structure in English and Dutch, the possessive dative in Romance, subject datives in Icelandic and in various Indo-European languages.

Each student will be asked to "represent" a language he/she knows and to analyze the morphology and the syntax of the dative in this language.

The students carry out a small comparative research, presented in a paper.

**Initial competences**

Previous knowledge of linguistics at master's level is required.

**Final competences**

- 1 Assess highly specialized scientific articles in the field of syntax
- 2 Reconstruct and assess the argumentation in the field of syntax
- 3 Assess linguistic hypotheses
- 4 Apply language-specific hypotheses to other languages
- 5 Build a linguistic argumentation
- 6 Evaluate the relevance of data with respect to a hypothesis

**Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

**Conditions for exam contract**

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

**Teaching methods**

Seminar, Independent work

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

The seminars consist of discussions of scientific articles.

The guided tutorial consists of the reading of scientific articles, which are commented and discussed in class.

Students write a paper on a chosen topic that is closely related to the theme of the course.

The students deliver short presentations on certain constructions in the language of their choice.

**Learning materials and price**

Scientific papers, powerpoint-powerpoint presentations, hand-outs, videos.

All learning materials are available on Ufora.

**References**

Haspelmath M. 2009, "Terminology of case". In: Malchukov, Andrej & Spencer, Andrew (eds.). The Oxford handbook of case. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 505-517.

Other references will be provided during the classes.

**Course content-related study coaching**

Individual counseling

**Assessment moments**

continuous assessment

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period****Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period****Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Participation, Assignment

**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible

**Extra information on the examination methods**

Students are evaluated (i) on a paper in which they study one of the issues discussed during the classes in the language(s) of their choice and (ii) on their participation in the classes (more specifically the oral presentations).

**Calculation of the examination mark**

Paper 80%

Participation 20%

**Facilities for Working Students**

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance.

2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year

3. Feedback can be given by email, or during an appointment during or after office hours, on campus or online (google docs)

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy