

## Syntax, Case and Lexicon (A006627)

**Cursusomvang** *(nominale waarden; effectieve waarden kunnen verschillen per opleiding)*

**Studiepunten 5.0** **Studietijd 150 u**

**Aanbodsessies in academiejaar 2026-2027**

A (semester 2) Engels Gent

**Lesgevers in academiejaar 2026-2027**

Bentein, Klaas LW06 Verantwoordelijk lesgever

**Aangeboden in onderstaande opleidingen in 2026-2027**

	stptn	aanbodsessie
<a href="#">Master of Arts in de taal- en letterkunde (afstudeerrichting taalwetenschap)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Uitwisselingsprogramma taal-en letterkunde</a>	5	A

**Onderwijstalen**

Engels

**Trefwoorden**

syntax, lexicon, typology, case, alignment

**Situering**

The course provides a specialization in the study of grammatical case from both a comparative and a typological perspective, as well as its place in theoretical approaches focused on the lexicon and syntax.

**Inhoud**

In this course we will investigate grammatical case, a hotly debated issue in descriptive and theoretical linguistics, by adopting a contrastive and typological perspective. What are the reasons why languages mark elements with case, and what are the attested ways in which different languages manifest case? Why, and how, do other languages present no grammatical case? We will pay attention to the manifestations of case and the proposed analyses in a wide typological and areal range of languages spanning from Europe and Asia to the Amazon and Australia. The overview of existing theoretical approaches will be complemented with different hypotheses on case assignment and its morphological patterns, and the corresponding syntactic structures. Several types of phenomena and analyses of grammatical case will be explored by means of case studies, such as alignment typology, hierarchy effects, differential case marking, or the diachrony of case systems. Each student will be asked to write a small comparative study, presented both orally and in a written paper, either by picking a language of their choice and analyzing the morphological and syntactic patterns of case marking in this language, or by focusing on a specific phenomenon related to case with a wider comparative approach.

**Begincompetenties**

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

**Eindcompetenties**

- 1 null
- 2 null
- 3 null
- 4 null
- 5 null
- 6 null

**Creditcontractvoorwaarde**

De toegang tot dit opleidingsonderdeel via creditcontract is open: de student houdt zelf rekening met voorkennis uitgedrukt in begincompetenties

### **Examencontractvoorwaarde**

Dit opleidingsonderdeel kan niet via examencontract gevolgd worden

### **Didactische werkvormen**

Werkcollege, Zelfstandig werk

### **Toelichtingen bij de didactische werkvormen**

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.

### **Studiemateriaal**

Geen

### **Referenties**

Barðdal, Jóhanna. 2009. The Development of Case in Germanic. The Role of Semantic, Pragmatic and Discourse Factors in the Development of Case, ed. by J. Barðdal & S. L. Chelliah, 123–159. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Barðdal, Jóhanna, Thomas Smitherman, Valgerður Bjarnadóttir, Serena Danesi, Gard B. Jensen & Barbara McGillivray. 2012. Reconstructing Constructional Semantics: The Dative Subject Construction in Old Norse-Icelandic, Latin, Ancient Greek, Old Russian and Old Lithuanian. *Studies in Language* 36(3): 511–547.

Butt, Miriam. 2009. Modern Approaches to Case: An Overview. *The Oxford Handbook of Case*, ed. by A. Malchukov & A. Spencer, 27–43. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Haspelmath, Martin. 2009. Terminology of Case. *The Oxford Handbook of Case*, ed. by A. Malchukov & A. Spencer, 505–517. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Li, Yen-hui Audrey. 2022. The Case for Case in Chinese. In *The Cambridge Handbook of Chinese Linguistics*, Chu-Ren Huang, Yen-Hwei Lin, I-Hsuan Chen, and Yu-Yin Hsu (eds.), Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 467–85.

Luraghi, Silvia and Kittilä, Seppo. 2014. Typology and diachrony of partitive case markers. In Silvia Luraghi and Tuomas Huomo (eds.) *Partitive Cases and Related Categories*. Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter Mouton: 17–62.

Nichols, Johanna. 1986. Head-marking and dependent-marking grammar. *Language* 62, 1, 56–119.

Other references will be provided during the classes.

### **Vakinhoudelijke studiebegeleiding**

#### **Evaluatiemomenten**

niet-periodegebonden evaluatie

#### **Evaluatievormen bij periodegebonden evaluatie in de eerste examenperiode**

#### **Evaluatievormen bij periodegebonden evaluatie in de tweede examenperiode**

#### **Evaluatievormen bij niet-periodegebonden evaluatie**

Presentatie, Werkstuk

#### **Tweede examenkans in geval van niet-periodegebonden evaluatie**

Examen in de tweede examenperiode is mogelijk

#### **Toelichtingen bij de evaluatievormen**

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.

#### **Eindscoreberekening**