

Argument Structure in Nominative and Ergative Languages

BMA-ANGD17-CNy7a.02

Instructor

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Time & place

Monday, 15:00–16:30, R442

Overview. The course aims to compare various syntactic phenomena related to argument structure and case assignment in nominative and ergative languages.

Requirements. At the end of the course, students are expected to write a short essay either commenting on a paper / papers discussed in class or presenting a set of relevant data from a language not considered in class and analysing it using one of the discussed approaches.

Essay: 4 – 8 pages, 12 pt.

Attendance. No more than two absences will be tolerated.

Topics

- argument structure
- morphological ergativity
- case assignment, dependent case theory
- syntactic ergativity
- voice transformations

Readings

Primary: Coon, Jessica, Diane Massam, and Lisa deMena Travis, eds. 2017. *The Oxford Handbook of Ergativity*. Oxford Handbooks. Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press.

Additional papers will be recommended during the term