

The Syntax of Fronting Phenomena

Szécsényi Krisztina, Mon 15:30–18:30,R326

5-credit seminar, 60h/term; *strong prereq*:BMA-ANGD-A1 A2 A3 A4

The left periphery, also called the operator field or the CP-layer encodes information related to the discourse and scope properties of clauses. The course focuses on two major issues: on the one hand, the cross-linguistic differences between the left periphery of finite and non-finite clauses, mainly, but not exclusively of English, Hungarian, and German. On the other hand, it is pointed out that the properties of finite clauses also differ systematically depending on whether they are main clauses or embedded ones, and a set of the so-called Main Clause Phenomena, a subset of the fronting processes, will be identified.

Readings:

- Aelbrecht, L., L. Haegeman and R Nye (eds). 2012. Main Clause Phenomena. John Benjamins Publishing Company, Amsterdam/Philadelphia. (selected chapters)
- Newson, M. 2006. Basic English Syntax with Exercises, HEFOP, Budapest downloadable from:<http://primus.arts.u-szeged.hu/bese/>(or google it)
- Radford, A. 2004. Minimalist Syntax: Exploring the structure of English, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

requirements & assessment

Attendance, occasional homeworks, and active participation with an in-class endterm paper at the end of the course. Instead of the endterm paper students can choose to write a home essay related to the topics discussed during the course.