

PhD course: Different types of data in linguistics – Possibilities and pitfalls

Course code: HFILN9001D (at UiO)

Time: 2-3 May 2019

Place: University of Oslo

Credits: 2 or 3 ECTS

Course instructors:

Dr Dave Kush, NTNU

Dr Kari Kinn, University of Oslo

Prof Marjo van Koppen, University of Utrecht

Prof Lorenza Mondada, University of Basel

Course organizers: Kari Kinn, UiO

Course website: <https://www.uio.no/studier/emner/hf/iln/HFILN9001D/course-description-spring-2019.html>

Course description

This course focuses on empirical aspects of linguistic studies; the goal is to raise awareness of the possibilities and pitfalls associated with different data types. The instructors are linguists with extensive experience collecting and analysing different types of data.

The course is organised as a two-day workshop. The instructors will each lead a session taking their own research as a point of departure, and discuss data-related issues. There will also be sessions of student presentations; this course is an excellent opportunity for the students to discuss their own work with the instructors and each other.

There will be 4 thematic sessions, outlined as follows:

1. **Acceptability judgements.** Key topics are formal vs. informal judgements, strengths and limitations of the method and practical advice when setting up experiments. This session will be led by Dr Dave Kush.

2. **Corpora.** Key topics are corpora as a testing ground for hypotheses and different ways of using corpus data. This session will be led by Dr Kari Kinn.

3. **Variation and variability.** Key topics are variation between different types of data (when combined), inter-speaker variation and intra-speaker variation. This session will be led by Prof Marjo van Koppen.

4. **Multimodal data.** This session focuses on video recordings, which are used for data collection in many subdisciplines of linguistics. A key topic is the extent to which, and how, the process of video recording shapes the data, e.g. through camera perspective.

Instructors:

1. Dr Dave Kush, NTNU
2. Dr Kari Kinn, University of Oslo
3. Prof Marjo van Koppen, University of Utrecht
4. Prof Lorenza Mondada, University of Basel

More details will be made available in due course.

Please note that the primary requirement for 3 ECTS is to give a presentation. The option of writing a 2000 word essay will be made available if the number of students exceeds the number of presentation slots.

Organiser: [Kari Kinn](#)

Readings – Different types of data in linguistics

University of Oslo 2–3 May 2019

Corpora

Blaxter, T., & Kinn, K. (2018). On *ek* and *jak* in Middle Norwegian: Mixed methods in historical

sociolinguistics. *Transactions of the Philological Society*, 116 (3), 383-409.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-968X.12126>

Gries, S. Th. & Newman, J. Creating and using corpora. In Podesva, J. and Sharma, D. (eds.): *Research methods in linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 257–287.

Farasyn, M., Walkden, G., Watts, S., & Breitbarth, A. (2018). The interplay between genre and

syntax in a historical Low German corpus. In *Diachronic corpora, genre, and language change*.

Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 281-300.

Heycock, C., & Wallenberg, J. (2013). How variational acquisition drives syntactic change. *The*

Journal of Comparative Germanic Linguistics, 16(2-3), 127–157. [https://doi.org/](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10828-013-9056-0)

[10.1007/s10828-](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10828-013-9056-0)

[013-9056-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10828-013-9056-0)

Pintzuk, S., Taylor, A. & Warner, A. (2017). Corpora and quantitative methods. In Ledgeway, A. &

Roberts, I. (eds.): *The Cambridge handbook of historical syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University

Press. 218–240.

Acceptability judgements

Gibson, E., & Fedorenko, E. (2013). The need for quantitative methods in syntax and semantics

research. *Language and Cognitive Processes*, 28(1-2), 88-124.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/01690965.2010.515080>

Gibson, E., Piantadosi, S. T., & Fedorenko, E. (2013). Quantitative methods in syntax/semantics

research: A response to Sprouse and Almeida (2012). *Language and Cognitive Processes*, 28(3),

229-240. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01690965.2012.704385>

Linzen, T., & Oseki, Y. (2018). The reliability of acceptability judgments across languages. *Glossa:*

a journal of general linguistics, 3(1). 100, 1–25. <https://doi.org/10.5334/gjgl.528>

Mahowald, K., Graff, P., Hartman, J., & Gibson, E. (2016). SNAP judgments: A small N acceptability paradigm (SNAP) for linguistic acceptability judgments. *Language*, 92(3), 619-635.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lan.2016.0052>

Schütze, C. T. & Sprouse J. (2013). Judgment data. In Podesva, J. and Sharma, D. (eds.): *Research*

methods in linguistics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 27–50.

Sprouse, J., & Almeida, D. (2013). The empirical status of data in syntax: A reply to Gibson and

Fedorenko. *Language and Cognitive Processes*, 28(3), 222-228.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/01690965.2012.703782>

Sprouse, J., Schütze, C. T., & Almeida, D. (2013). A comparison of informal and formal acceptability judgments using a random sample from Linguistic Inquiry 2001–2010. *Lingua* 134,

219-248. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lingua.2013.07.002>

Variation and variability

Cornips, L. and C. Poletto (2005). On standardising syntactic elicitation techniques: part I. *Lingua*

115, 939–957. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lingua.2003.11.004>

Cornips, Leonie, and C. Poletto (2007). Field linguistics meets formal research: how a microcomparative view can deepen our theoretical investigation Part 2 (sentential negation). Ms.

Meertens Institute and ISTC-CNR.

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/L_Cornips/publication/267240388_Field_linguistics_meets_fo

[rmal_research_how_a_microcomparative_view_can_deepen_our_theoretical_investigation_Part_2_sentential_negation/links/546fb8d40cf24af340c0943f.pdf](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/L_Cornips/publication/267240388_Field_linguistics_meets_fo_rmal_research_how_a_microcomparative_view_can_deepen_our_theoretical_investigation_Part_2_sentential_negation/links/546fb8d40cf24af340c0943f.pdf)

Corver, N., van Koppen, Kranendonk, M & Rigterink M (2007). The Noun Phrase: Diversity in

Dutch DP Design (DiDDD). *Nordlyd* 34, 73-85. <https://doi.org/10.7557/12.90>

Barbiers, S. & L. Cornips (2000). Introduction to syntactic microvariation. In: Barbiers et al. (eds.).

Syntactic microvariation. <http://www.meertens.knaw.nl/books/synmic/introduction.pdf>

Multimodal data

Mondada, L. (2016). Challenges of multimodality: Language and the body in social interaction.

Journal of Sociolinguistics, 20(3), 336-366. https://doi.org/10.1111/josl.1_12177

Heath, C. & Luff, P. (2012). Embodied action and organizational activity. In Sidnell Black & Stivers, Tanya (eds). *The handbook of conversation analysis*. Blackwell. 281–307.

Goodwin, C. (2000). Action and embodiment within situated human interaction. *Journal of pragmatics*, 32(10), 1489-1522. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0378-2166\(99\)00096-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0378-2166(99)00096-X)

Different Types of Data in Linguistics: Possibilities and Pitfalls

University of Oslo, 2–3 May 2019

Venue

Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies, **Henrik Wergelands Hus, room 536**. Map: <https://www.uio.no/english/about/getting-around/areas/blindern/bl06/>

Directions: Get the metro (*T-bane*) to Forskningsparken (Line 4: Vestli via Storo; Line 5: Ringen via Storo, or Line 5: Sognsvann). Alternatively: get the tram to Universitetet Blindern (Line 17 or 18, direction Rikshospitalet). More on public transport: <https://ruter.no/en/>

Schedule

Thursday 2nd May	
09:15–11:00	Introduction + Corpora. Kari Kinn (UiO).
11:00–11:15	Short break.
11:15–12:05	Student presentations. - José Luis Rojas Díaz (NHH). - Arild Høie Henriksen (UiA).
12:05–13:15	Lunch.
13:15–15:00	Acceptability judgements. Dave Kush (NTNU).
15:00–15:15	Short break.
15:15–16:05	Student presentations: - Kristin Klubbo Brodahl (NTNU). - Isabel Nadine Jensen (UiT).

Friday 3rd May	
09:15–11:00	Variation/variability. Marjo van Koppen (Uni. of Utrecht).
11:00–11:15	Short break.
11:15–12:00	Student presentation: Ingunn Hreinberg Indridadottir (Uni. of Iceland). Discussion.
12:00–13:15	Lunch.
13:15–15:00	Multimodal data. Lorenza Mondada (Uni. of Basel).
15:00–15:15	Short break.
15:15–16:00	Discussion. Course evaluation.

The course is funded by the Norwegian Graduate Researcher School in Linguistics and Philology (LingPhil).