**Workshop on Artificial Language Learning**

April 16-17 (Monday & Tuesday) 2018,

on the 12th floor of Niels Treschows Hus

UiO

Event Description:

In the last decades, experimental methods have become increasingly common in linguistic research. Artificial Language Learning (sometimes Artificial Grammar Learning) has proved to be an investigative tool that can provide insight into several different linguistics fields. It has been used in fields such as syntax (Culbertson & Adger, 2013), morphology (Hawkins & Cutler, 1988), phonology (Pycha et al. 2003) and acquisition (Saffran & Thiessen, 2003). The goal of this event is to look at the different ways in which Artificial Language Learning can aid linguistic inquiries. The method has provided new insight into typological generalisations, language acquisition mechanisms, linguistic biases and language change.

Speakers:

Sara Finley (Pacific Lutheran University) Julian Kirkeby Lysvik (UiO) Andrew Nevins (UCL) Katya Pertsova (UCN at Chapel Hill) Ruben van de Vijver (Universität Düsseldorf)

Course requirements (for PhD students):

In order to qualify for 2 ECTS points, participants are required to do the following:

 1) actively participate in debate / ask questions

 2) read the curriculum

 3) send in specific questions before the course to the presenters

 4) write a 2,000 word essay on how to apply the methodology to their own research

Curriculum:

Finley, S. (2017). Learning metathesis: Evidence for syllable structure constraints. Journal of Memory and Language 92, 142-157.

Finley, S. (2017). Locality and harmony: Perspectives from artificial grammar learning. Language and Linguistics Compass 11, e12233.

van de Vijver, R. & D. Baer-Henney (2014). Developing biases. Frontiers in Psychology 5, 1-8.

Baer-Henney, D. & R. van de Vijver (2012). On the role of substance, locality and amount of exposure in the acquisition of morphophonemic alternations. Laboratory Phonology 3, 221-249.

Nevins, A. (2010) Two Case Studies in Phonological Universals: A View from Artificial Grammars. Biolinguistics 4, 218-233.