

DGfS + GLOW summer school, Stuttgart 2006

Course title: Formal approaches to language change

Instructor: Thórhallur ('Tolli') Eythórsson (tolli@hi.is)

Credits: 6

Requirements for credits: A short essay containing a formal analysis of a selected problem in historical linguistics ('the language change of your choice')

Aims: To introduce and examine critically current formal approaches to language change, focusing on the "cue-based" approach to language acquisition, variation and change (Lightfoot 1999, 2006)

Syllabus (preliminary):

Session	Date		Topic
1	Tue	15.8.	Introduction: Interaction of I- and E-language
2	Thur	17.8.	Traditional historical linguistics
3	Sat	19.8.	I-language and UG
4	Tue	22.8.	What is a 'cue' (and what isn't)?
5	Thur	24.8.	Cuing new grammars
6	Sat	26.8.	Use and variation of grammars
7	Tue	29.8.	How new grammars 'erupt'
8	Thur	31.8.	Consequences. Alternatives?

Main reading:

Lightfoot, David. 2006. *How new languages emerge*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Selected additional reading:

- Andersen, Henning. 2001. Actualization and the (uni)directionality of change. In Henning Andersen, ed., *Actualization: linguistic change in progress*, pp. 225-248. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Brinton, Laurel & Elizabeth Closs Traugott. 2005. *Lexicalization and language change*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Clark, Robin & Ian Roberts. 1993. A computational model of language learnability and language change. *Linguistic Inquiry* 24:299-345.
- Gelderen, Elly van. 2004. *Grammaticalization as Economy*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Hale, Mark. 1998. Diachronic syntax. *Syntax* 1:1-18.
- Haspelmath, Martin. 2004. On directionality in language change with particular reference to grammaticalization. In Olga Fischer, Muriel Norde & Harry Perridon, eds. *Up and down the cline – The nature of grammaticalization*, pp. 17-44. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

- Henry, Alison. 2002. Variation and syntactic theory. In J. K. Chambers, Peter Trudgill & Natalie Schilling-Estes, eds. *The handbook of language variation and change*, pp. 267-282. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Hróarsdóttir, Thorbjörg. 2000. *Word order change in Icelandic*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Jónsson, Jóhannes Gísli & Thórhallur Eythórsson. 2005. Variation and change in subject case marking in Insular Scandinavian. *Nordic Journal of Linguistics* 28.2:223-245.
- Kroch, Anthony S. 1989. Reflexes of grammar in patterns of language change. *Language variation and change* 1:199-244.
- Kroch, Anthony S. 1994. Morphosyntactic variation. *Papers from the 30th meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society*, vol. 2: *Variation and linguistic theory*, pp. 181-210. Chicago, IL: Chicago Linguistic Society.
- Lightfoot, David. 1999. *The development of language: acquisition, change and evolution*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Maling, Joan & Sigríður Sigurjónsdóttir. 2002. The ‘new impersonal’ construction in Icelandic. *The Journal of Comparative Germanic Linguistics* 5:97-142.
- Matthews, Peter. 2003. On change in “E-language.” In Raymond Hickey, ed. *Motives for language change*, pp. 7-17. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Roberts, Ian & Anna Roussou. 2003. *Syntactic change: a minimalist approach to grammaticalization*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.