## *NEW COURSE PROPOSAL (Boğaziçi Linguistics)*

1. COURSE CODE, TITLE AND CREDIT:

Ling58B: Linguistic Categories and Grammar

1. CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Referentiality and configurationality in linguistic theories. Linguistic categories. Structural functions of case, agreement and grammatical relations. Intensional categories: decision versus choice. The verb's unique role in grammar. Sources and limits of human language categorial variation. Case studies with typologically diverse relatively understudied languages.
2. FACULTY MEMBERS WHO CAN TEACH THE COURSE: Prof.dr. Cem Bozşahin
3. BACKGROUND REQUIREMENT(S): A first course in at least three of the following topics including syntax, either at the graduate level or undergraduate: morphology, syntax, semantics, phonology, typology, computer science. Seniors in Linguistics can take it as elective. Mathematical preliminaries (lambda-calculus, monads, computation) are covered in class. Knowledge of programming is a plus, but not required.
4. COURSE IN RELATION TO THE PROGRAMS: This course is intended as a graduate level elective in Linguistics, for MA and PhD students. It can also be taken by senior students of lingustics and by students of other departments who have sufficient interest and background.
5. COURSE OBJECTIVES: To build knowledge of putting syntax-semantics of referentiality and configurationality together in a grammar. To assess similar descriptions. To understand the relation between choice and decision in a category. To analyze a language hitherto underanalyzed from the presented perspective. To assess different categorization of distinct verb forms.
6. COURSE OUTLINE: The course consists of four parts in one term. In the first part, we build on categorial and generative solutions to configurationality, and study referentiality and its categoriality. In the second part, the degrees of freedom in a theory are assessed from languages which are theoretically challenging and typologically diverse. In the third part, students assess two categorially underanalyzed languages from the perspective covered in class. In the final part, they present their analyses of the two languages, and critique each others' work.
7. TEXTBOOK:

Bozşahin, Cem (2024). *The Verb and the World*. ms.

1. REFERENCE MATERIAL:

a) Schmerling, Susan (2018). S*ound and Grammar.* Brill.

b) Bozşahin, Cem (2012). *Combinatory Linguistics.* de Gruyter Mouton.

c) Carpenter, Bob (1997). *Type-logical semantics*. MIT Press.

d) Ryle, Gilbert (1968). The thinking of thoughts: What is 'Le Penseur' doing? Univ. of Saskatchewan, reprinted in *Collected papers of Ryle* vol.2, 1971, Barnes and Noble.

1. COURSE CONDUCT: First two parts of the course outline are formal lectures by the instructor. In the third part, students form two groups to study in class two languages chosen by them from a pool. They present the typological description of the languages to classmates. In the fourth part, the groups present their analyses of a particular phenomenon in these languages, discussed and assessed by everyone in class. A computational tool is explored throughout the class for developing and assessing linguistic analyses.
2. GRADING: a) Five weekly essays, either in class or take-home. b) Group presentation of language description in the third part. c) Group presentation of preliminary analyses in the fourth part. d) Personal Term report as final exam. e) Participation in discussions.

All equal weight.

1. EFFECTIVE DATE: September-October 2024.
2. FREQUENCY: On demand.