

# Natural Concepts

University of Konstanz

March 9-11, 2022

All times are CEST

## Day 1: March 9

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83676814073?pwd=YnVrY0RxRmFZbjE3aEU5WlpXWHF6dz09>

Meeting ID: 836 7681 4073

Passcode: ConceptsD1

- 15:00–16:00    Invited talk: **Tania Ionin** (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)  
“In general, task format can affect performance: Using comprehension tasks to study genericity and kind-reference”  
This talk will review some of the methodological formats commonly used to study genericity and kind-reference in both native and learner grammars. Truth-value judgment tasks (TVJTs) and context-based Acceptability judgment tasks (AJTs) will be discussed, with illustrations drawn from the work of our research group.
- 16:00–16:10    Short break
- 16:10–17:10    **Maribel Romero** (Konstanz, Linguistics)  
P1 “The anatomy of genericity”
- 17:10–18:10    **Tanja Kupisch & Theo Marinis** (Konstanz, Linguistics)  
P6 “Acquisition of generic NPs across languages”

**Day 2: March 10**

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88657508116?pwd=dmxtTERNY1FHODJDd0c1R0Z6VGpodz09>

Meeting ID: 886 5750 8116

Passcode: ConceptsD2

- 13:00–14:00 **Diego Frassinelli** (Konstanz, Linguistics)  
P4 “When scientific language meets ordinary language in use”
- 14:00–14:10 Short break
- 14:10–15:10 Invited talk: **Gabriella Vigliocco** (University College London)  
“Representing Meaning across concrete and abstract domains”  
In this talk I will present some of the work I have carried out in the years addressing the question of how we learn, represent and use concepts. I will start by presenting a view in which concepts are conceived as embedding different types of information: both information derived from experience (sensory, motor and affective) as well as information derived from language and present evidence for this position. I will then move to address the question of how context-dependent vs context-independent our conceptual representations are presenting some initial evidence suggesting clear context-dependency.
- 15:10–15:40 Coffee break
- 15:40–16:40 **Regine Eckardt** (Konstanz, Linguistics)  
P3 “Natural functional concepts”
- 16:40–16:50 Short break
- 16:50–17:50 Invited talk: **Friederike Moltmann** (CNRS, Paris)  
“Natural language ontology. Ontology as part of grammar?”  
In this talk I outline the project of natural language ontology with a core-periphery distinction that is essential to it. I also propose a view on which the core ontology of natural language is on a par with syntax, but as an ontology of the real.

### Day 3: March 11

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84911726069?pwd=djFXdzV4ZGlEc1dXSWMYUR6aDJsZz09>

Meeting ID: 849 1172 6069

Passcode: ConceptsD3

- 13:00–14:00 **Carolín Antos** (Konstanz, Philosophy)  
P2 “Naturalness and concept change”
- 14:00–14:10 Short break
- 14:10–15:10 Invited talk: **Øysten Linnebo** (University of Oslo)  
“Engineering natural concepts of collection ”  
The history of mathematics and philosophy have seen many different concepts of collection: a combinatorial set (understood as a gathering into one of previously available objects), a logical class (understood as defined by its membership condition, not by its members), a mereological sum, etc. This observation raises some general philosophical-mathematical questions. What concepts of collection do we have? Which, if any, of these concepts should we use? Or should we “(re-)engineer” one or more concepts of collection to produce concepts that are more fit for purpose?
- 15:10–15:40 Coffee break
- 15:40–16:40 Invited talk: **Jakub Szymanik** (ILLC, Amsterdam)  
“Universal preference for monotone concepts”  
I will discuss universal linguistic preference towards lexicalizing monotone (convex) meanings, both in function and content domains. Through modeling and experimental work, I’ll argue that such preference can be explained cognitively by simplicity (also in learning and evolution).
- 16:40–16:50 Short break
- 16:50–17:50 **Thomas Müller** (Konstanz, Philosophy)  
P7 “Identifying scientifically natural concepts”
- 17:50–18:00 Wrap-up