

LNG 390: 言語学特別研究 I

Topics in Linguistics I

Time/Place: TH 15:10-19:00

Instructor: Toru Ishii (tishii@kisc.meiji.ac.jp)

Office Hours: By appointment

Textbook:

Baker, Mark (2001) *The Atoms of Language*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Readings:

Baker, Mark (2008) "The macroparameter in a microparametric world," in Theresa Biberauer ed., *The Limits of Syntactic Variation*, pp. 351-74, Amsterdam: John Benjamin.

Boeckx, Cedric (2011) "Approaching parameters from below," in Anna Maria di Sciullo and Cedric Boeckx eds., *The Biolinguistic Enterprise*, pp. 205-221, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Gallego, Angel (2011) "Parameters," in Cedric Boeckx ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Minimalism*, pp. 523-550, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Richards, Marc (2008) "Two kinds of variation in a minimalist system," in Fabian Heck, Gereon Müller and Jochen Trommer eds., *Varieties of Competition*, pp. 133-162, *Linguistische Arbeits Berichte*, Universität Leipzig.

Course Description:

This course deals with parameters in linguistic theory, focusing on the following questions:

1. What parameters have been proposed in the Principles and Parameters approach?
2. What is the current status of parameters?
3. Why do parameters exist?

Requirements:

1. Regular class attendance and active participation in discussion
2. Presentations
3. Final paper

Learning Goals:

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be familiar with the notion of parameters.

Schedule:

1. (9.6) The Code Talker Paradox, The Discovery of Atoms (1)
Read: Baker (2001) Chapters 1, 2
2. (9.13) The Discovery of Atoms (2)
Read: Baker (2001) Chapters 2
3. (9.20) Samples Versus Recipes
Read: Baker (2001) Chapter 3
4. (9.27) Baking a Polysynthetic Language
Read: Baker (2001) Chapter 4
5. (10.4) Alloys and Compounds
Read: Baker (2001) Chapter 5
6. (10.11) Toward a Periodic Table of Languages
Read: Baker (2001) Chapter 6
7. (10.18), Why Parameters
Read: Baker (2001) Chapter 7
8. (10.25) Presentations
9. (11.1) Presentations
10. (11.8) Presentations