The Underpinnings of Meaning Change

Instructor: Martín Fuchs (Yale University)

Monday, February 3rd
- Overview of the course.
- The ingredients: change, meaning, underpinnings.
  - Recommended readings: Campbell 2013 (Ch.1), C&MC-G 2000 (Ch.1), Bybee 2010 (Ch. 1).

Tuesday, February 4th
- Semantic change at the lexical level.
- Regularity in semantic change/Grammaticalization.
  - Recommended readings: Campbell 2013 (Ch. 9), Traugott & Dasher 2002 (Ch. 1 & 2)

Wednesday, February 5th
- Formal approaches to semantic change.
- Why is there unidirectionality?

Thursday, February 6th
- Test case I: The Perfect-to-Perfective shift.
  - Recommended readings: Schaden 2012, Condoravdi & Deo 2014

Friday, February 7th
- Test case II: The Progressive-to-Imperfective shift.
  - Recommended readings: Deo 2015b, Fuchs et al. 2020

References

Condoravdi, Cleo & Deo, Ashwini. 2014. Aspect shifts in Indo-Aryan and trajectories of semantic
Deo, Ashwini. 2015b. The semantic and pragmatic underpinnings of grammaticalization path: the
progressive to imperfective shift. Semantics and Pragmatics 8(1), 1-52.
Fuchs, Martín, Piñango, María Mercedes & Deo, Ashwini. 2020. Operationalizing the role of context in
language variation: the role of perspective alignment in the Spanish Imperfective domain. In:
Linguistic, Philosophical and Psychological Perspectives. Language, Cognition and Mind Series.
Springer.
Schaden, Gerhard. 2012. Modelling the ‘aoristic drift of the present perfect’ as inflation: an essay in
University Press.