

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*?
 - *Recommended readings: Deo 2015a, Haspelmath 1999, Dahl 2001.*

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.*
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References

- Bybee, Joan. 2010. *Language, usage, and cognition*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Campbell, Lyle. 2013. *Historical Linguistics: An Introduction*. 3rd edition. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- C&MC-G = Chierchia, Gennaro & McConnell-Ginet, Sally. 2000. *Meaning and Grammar: An Introduction to Semantics*. 2nd edition. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- Condoravdi, Cleo & Deo, Ashwini. 2014. Aspect shifts in Indo-Aryan and trajectories of semantic change. In Gianollo, C.; Jäger, A & Penka, D. (eds). *Language change at the Syntax-Semantics Interface*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter. 261-292.
- Dahl, Östen. 2001. Inflationary effects in language and elsewhere. In Bybee, J. & Hopper, P. (eds.) *Frequency and the Emergence of Linguistic Structure*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins. 471-480.
- Deo, Ashwini. 2015a. Diachronic Semantics. *Annual Review of Linguistics* 1: 179–197.
- 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: Gamerschlag, T., Kalenscher T., Löbner S., Schrenk M. & Zeevat, H. (eds.), *Cognitive Structures: Linguistic, Philosophical and Psychological Perspectives*. Language, Cognition and Mind Series. Springer.
- Haspelmath, Martin. 1999. Why is grammaticalization irreversible? *Linguistics* 37, 1043-1068.
- Schaden, Gerhard. 2012. Modelling the ‘aoristic drift of the present perfect’ as inflation: an essay in historical pragmatics. *International Review of Pragmatics* 4, 261-292.
- Traugott, Elizabeth & Dasher, Richard. 2002. *Regularity in semantic change*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.