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Lecture: M 2-4, SS 1080
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Evaluation:	Weight	Date
Participation	5%	Ongoing
Discussion Questions/Comments	15%	Ongoing
Leading discussion of articles	30%	TBD
Paper topic proposal	5%	Feb 5
Abstract	10%	Feb 26
Abstract Peer Review/Feedback	5%	Mar 5
Presentation (Conference style)	15%	Mar 26, Apr 2
Final paper (Proceedings style)	25%	Apr 9

Course Description: This course is an investigation of the syntax of nominal linkers, little elements you find in the noun phrases of many languages with no obvious meaning or function. We build the theoretical basis of the course in the first three weeks, reviewing topics such as the syntax of noun phrases and nominal modification. We will then explore the literature on nominal linkers, starting with Iranian languages (Persian, Kurdish, Zazaki, Gilaki, etc.) and moving to other languages for which such elements have been posited (Mandarin, Albanian, Romanian, Japanese, etc.). Our ultimate goal is to gain a better understanding of the syntax of these elements. What do they realize, case, agreement or something else? Is it reasonable to try to find a unified account of these elements in various languages or could they be entirely different things in every language? I can't promise you will find the final answer to these questions, but I surely hope you will be as intrigued as I am by the end of the course.

Readings: Readings are assigned on a weekly basis. Every student is expected to come to class having read the assigned articles. The readings will be made available on blackboard or hard copies will be placed in a marked folder in the department outside Naomi's office.

Leading discussion of articles: As of the second week of classes, the discussion of articles will be led by the students. Each student will be responsible for leading the discussion of two readings throughout the semester. (Note: Two chapters of Kayne, Leu and Zanuttini (2014) count as one reading, to be elaborated below and in class and sometimes a long article may be divided up among two students.) The assignment of readings to students will be sorted out in the first class. I will lead the discussion on Feb 26 and Mar 26.

Discussion Questions/Comments: Starting in the second week, every student should submit one discussion question/comment on every assigned reading. The questions should be thoughtful, engaging, roughly 150-250 words long and can involve discussion of problematic argumentation in the paper, data that the analysis fails to account for, extension of proposals in the paper to other data/problems, etc. These questions should be typed up and are due on the same day the readings are discussed. (Students leading the discussion of an article in a given week do not have to submit questions at all that week.)

Term Project: Each student should work on a project related to the theme of the course, broadly defined, throughout the semester. The project has different components. The first component is the topic proposal (approx. 1 page, double-spaced) due Feb 5. You should discuss your topic with me in advance. The next step in the project is an abstract (conference-style, default: CLA) due Feb 26. You will provide feedback on the abstract of a peer student, due the following week, Mar 5. I will then collect your abstracts with the peer feedback and return them to you with my own comments the week after, Mar 12. You will then work on your project and present it to the class in the final two weeks of class (conference-style, 20 minutes plus 10 minute for questions). You will receive feedback on your presentation and will use that to write up your final paper (proceeding-style, default: CLA, approx. 12 pages). The final paper is due Apr 9.

Course Schedule (approximate):

Week	Date	Topic	Item Due (in addition to weekly questions)
1	Jan 8	Introduction	
2	Jan 15	DP Syntax	
	Articles:	KLZ 3, 22, 21, 35	
3	Jan 22	Syntax of Nominal Modification	
	Articles:	Cinque (2010), Chap 1-3	
4	Jan 29	Relators and Linkers	
	Articles:	Den Dikken (2006), Chap 5	
5	Feb 5	Persian Ezafe – PF Story	Paper Topic Proposal
	Articles:	Ghomeshi (1997), Ghaniabadi (2010)	
6	Feb 12	Persian Ezafe (and ...) – Case Story	
	Articles:	Larson and Yamakido (2008), Larson (2009)	
	Feb 19	Family day - No class	
7	Feb 26	Persian Ezafe – Roll-up Story	Abstract
	Articles:	Kahnemuyipour (2014)	
8	Mar 5	Kurdish Ezafe	Abstract Peer Review
	Articles:	Karimi (2007), Toosarvandani and van Urk (2014)	
9	Mar 12	Romanian, Albanian and beyond	
	Articles:	Irimia et al. (2014), Franco et al. (2015)	
10	Mar 19	Korean, Japanese	
	Articles:	An (2014), Watanabe (2010)	
11	Mar 26	Arguments in the Ezafe Domain,	Presentations
	Articles:	Altamaz (2016)	
12	Apr 2	Presentations	
	Apr 9	Final Paper Due	

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