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Course description
Descriptif du cours

Department: English

Instructor (s): Prof. Nadia Bouchhioua

Academic year: 2021-2022

Level: M1 in linguistics

Course title: Morphology S2

Course outline:

1. **Introduction**
   - ✓ Open vs. closed word classes
   - ✓ Lexemes, word form, grammatical word
   - ✓ Free and Bound Morphemes
   - ✓ Lexical morphemes and grammatical morphemes
   - ✓ Roots and Affixes
   - ✓ Bases and stems

2. **Major Processes of English Word Formation**
   - ✓ Derivational Morphology
   - ✓ Affixation: multiple affixations, word tree diagrams
   - ✓ Conversion: Total and partial conversion, functional shift, morpheme internal change
   - ✓ Compounding: types,   nature,   the   semantics   of   compounds: Exocentric compounds/copulative compounds

3. **Productivity in Word Formation**:
   - ✓ Productivity
   - ✓ Semi-productivity
   - ✓ Constraints to productivity: blocking, phonological, semantic, and morphological factors.

4. **Minor Processes of English Word Formation**

✓ Reduplication

✓ Blending

✓ Acronyms

✓ Word-Coinage

✓ Back Formation

✓ Name Derivation

5. Inflectional Morphology

✓ Inflectional vs. Derivational Morphology

✓ Morphophonemics: The pronunciation of morphemes: Allomorphs, phonological conditioning, lexical conditioning, and grammatical conditioning.

 6. Zero morphs, portmanteau morphemes, suppletion

7**. Morphological typology of world languages:**

  ✓   Analytic
  ✓   Agglutinating
  ✓   Inflectional,
  ✓   Polysynthetic
  ✓   Fusional languages

Course objectives:

The course aims to provide MA linguistics students with a solid grounding of the morphological structure of the English language as well as some other languages. Students should develop awareness of how English words are structured and how they are put together from smaller parts (compared to other languages). It helps students develop a sense of the principles governing the structures and forms of words and how are they are indicative of deeper principles which hold of the language faculty as a whole. The course also aims at raising students' awareness of the way morphology interacts with phonology and other areas such as grammar, syntax and semantics, which may raise their awareness of potential research areas and help them undertake comparative studies.

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Identify the meaningful subparts of words and perform morphological analysis on unfamiliar languages
- Understand the major morphological phenomena found in the world's languages (language typology)
- Analyze morphological and phonological patterns in particular languages, and their interactions
- Represent morphosyntactic structure diagrammatically (tree diagrams), and comprehend the relationship between such structure and meaning

Method and evaluation:

Students are provided with essential readings (chapters) from the references mentioned below. They are asked to prepare a list of questions to ask to the teacher or to their classmates. Based on these questions, relevant explanations, examples and simplified notes are presented by the teacher. Exercises and problem sets, where analytical techniques and skills learned in class are applied to unfamiliar linguistic data, together with short-answer critical thinking questions, are worked on in the classroom. Other tasks are given to the students as homework. Small scale research projects prepared by students on the morphological structures of different languages are also discussed in the classroom. These projects consist in data-based original fieldwork. Students are required to find a speaker of a language they do not know anything about (generally African languages because of the availability of African students with different L1 in Tunisian, or Berber because of the availability of native speakers) and gather data on some aspect of the morphology of the language. Students are asked to use their own data or consult any existing reference materials on the language (to double check), then analyze the data, write it up as a short paper (3-4 pages), or present it to the class as a PowerPoint presentation.

Assessment

Students are assessed through written tests that comprise different tasks (morphological problem sets, analysis of tree diagrams, theoretical questions, etc…) that measure the students' assimilation of the course and its content. They also get a mark for the small scale project as part of continuous assessment.

References:

Katamaba, F. (1989). *Morphology*. New York: Longman.

Matthews, PH (1974). *Morphology: An introduction to the theory of word structure.* Cambridge University Press,

Mc Manis, C, Stollenwerk, D & Zheng-Sheng, Z (Eds.) (1987). *Language Files: Materials for an introduction to language*. Fourth edition. Ohio: The Ohio State University

Watson, J. C. (2002). *The phonology and morphology of Arabic*. Oxford University Press on Demand