Specialist Course: Modern Linguistic Approaches to Languages from the Past

Organising committee: prof. Klaas Bentein – Department of Linguistics (UGent); prof. Koen Bostoen – Department of Languages and Cultures (UGent); prof. Saartje Verbeke – Department of Linguistics / Department of Languages and Cultures (UGent); prof. Pedro Gras – Department of Linguistics (UAntwerpen); prof. An Vande Casteele – Department of Linguistics and Literary Studies (VUB)

Location: Ghent University

Date: May 13 - 17, 2019

ECTS: 3

This course aims at familiarizing PhD students of 'Ancient' languages or previous stages of modern languages with modern linguistic frameworks, trying to stimulate them to go beyond traditional philological methods. At the same time, it aims to deepen the knowledge of those students who already work within a specific linguistic framework, by bringing them in contact with leading specialists.

During one week of intensive classes, students will be introduced to Corpus Linguistics, Functional & Cognitive Linguistics, Generative Linguistics, Construction Grammar and (Historical) Sociolinguistics. These frameworks will be applied to a broad range of non-spoken languages, including Latin and Ancient Greek, Bantu languages (from a diachronic point of view), Old and Middle English, and early modern Dutch. During each class, students will be encouraged to critically reflect about the applicability of each theoretical framework to the study of languages from the past, and to try to compare and relate the different frameworks, thus developing an inter-disciplinary approach.

Before the start of the course, the PhD students will be expected to describe their research, scientific interests and motivations for participating in the course, as well as their expectations concerning the contents and the knowledge they hope to acquire. During the course, students will have the opportunity to schedule a short session with the lecturer of the day for specific questions concerning their own research or interests.





Tentative programme with time schedule:

Day 1 (May 13):

- 13.00 – 14.30 + 14.45 – 16.15: Gilles-Maurice de Schryver (UGent) on corpus linguistics and Bantu languages
- afternoon: time-slots of 30 minutes for appointements with Gilles-Maurice de Schryver

Day 2 (May 14) :

- 10.00 – 11.30 + 11.45 – 13.15: Rutger Allan (VU/UvA) on functional-cognitive linguistics and Ancient Greek - afternoon: time-slots of 30 minutes for appointments with Rutger Allan

Day 3 (May 15) :

- 10.00 – 11.30 + 11.45 – 13.15: Lieven Danckaert (Université de Lille - CNRS) on generative linguistics and Latin
 - afternoon: time-slots of 30 minutes for appointments with Lieven Danckaert

Day 4 (May 16):

- 10.00 – 11.30 + 11.45 – 13.15: Peter Petré (UAntwerp) on construction grammar and Old/Middle English
 - afternoon: time-slots of 30 minutes for appointments with Peter Petré

Day 5 (May 17):

- 10.00 – 11.30 + 11.45 – 13.15: Wim Vandenbussche (VUB) on historical sociolinguistics and early modern Dutch - afternoon: time-slots of 30 minutes for appointments with Wim Vandenbussche