13th Annual
Undergraduate Linguistics Colloquium at Harvard

Schedule
Location: Science Center 309

Saturday, April 9th 2016
9:30am  Breakfast
10:00am  Opening Ceremony

Session 1
10:15am  Kaden Holladay '16, Hampshire College
Discourse properties of mood in Central Alaskan Yup’ik
10:35am  Z.L. Zhou '16, Swarthmore College
Towards an Articulatory Understanding of Historical Phonology
10:55am  Emily Grabowski '18, Dartmouth College
A Phonetic Study of Vowel Length and Tone in Gulmancema

Break 11:15-11:30am

Session 2
11:30am  Yash Sinha '18, University of Chicago
Ergative Assignment in Hindi Compounds: Evidence from English Borrowings
11:50am  Yitong Chen '19, Carleton College
Wh-Movement in Archaic Chinese--A Response to Edith Aldridge

Lunch Break 12:10-1:30pm

Session 3
1:30pm  Elliot Schwartz '19, Carleton College
Raising to Spec Little vP as an Alternative to ECM
1:50pm  Grusha Prasad '17, Hampshire College
The P600 for Gender Neutral Pronouns: Can we teach ourselves to change syntactic expectation?
2:10pm  Canaan Breiss '16, Swarthmore College
English Loan Verbs in Hebrew: a Templatic Approach

Break 2:30-2:45pm

Session 4
2:45pm  Loren Skinner IV '18, Hampshire College
Osage Stress Patterns at the Sentential and Discourse Levels
3:05pm  Quentin Ullrich '17, College of William & Mary
Real Consumer Language: A Corpus-Based Approach to Trademark Law
3:25pm  Maggie Baird '18, Dartmouth College
An OT Analysis of Word-Final Vowel Deletion and Reduction in Gulmancema

End of Day One
Sunday, April 10th 2016
10:00am  Breakfast

Session 1
10:20am  Tamar Forman-Gejrot '16, Brandeis University
         Word Order Variation and Gapping in German
10:40am  Dan Brodkin '18, Carleton College
         Two Types of Gapless Relative Clause: Operator Voicing and Topicalization

Break 11:00-11:15am

Keynote Speaker
11:15am  Kathryn Davidson, Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Harvard University
         What have we learned about linguistic theory by studying sign languages?
         For most of the history of linguistics, the study of language has focused only on spoken languages, and sometimes their writing systems. In the 20th century, the “cognitive revolution” changed the way that we conceive of language not just as something that comes from the mouth and is perceived by the ears, but as a complex abstract system that is learned and organized in the same way by all humans: strong evidence for this shift comes from the fact that signed and spoken languages share these properties. In this talk, I’ll highlight important ways that sign languages broadened and sharpened theoretical claims about phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and even pragmatics, and discuss some questions that remain, focusing on syntax/semantics/pragmatics and the way that meaning and language modality interact.

Lunch Break 12:15-1:30pm

Session 2
1:30pm  Meghan McGarry '17, Hampshire College
         Using Event-Related Potentials to Explore Performativity
1:50pm  Adriana Smith '18, Carleton College
         Using the Null Operator to Explain the Optionality of Wh-Movement in French
2:10pm  Kumari Mayshark '16, CUNY, Brooklyn College
         Early Verb Acquisition and the Thematic Hierarchy: Are Transitive Verbs Acquired Before Unaccusative Verbs?

Break 2:30-2:45pm

Session 3
2:45pm  Michael Schneekloth '17, Carleton College
         Rethinking the Structure of DPs: The Syntax and Interpretation of Coordinate Possessive Nominals
3:05pm  Wojciech Jack Rafalski '16, CUNY, Brooklyn College
         Pushing the Bounds of Synthetic Speech Perception: Adding Pitch Contours to Sinewave Speech Synthesis
3:25pm  Rachel Vogel '16, Swarthmore College
         Vowels in Bantawa: an experimental approach

3:45pm  Closing Ceremonies