Preliminary syllabus

Syntax seminar: Case and voice
Linguistics 46000

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Fall 2005, Tuesdays 3:00-5:50 Harper 125

This seminar provides a look at a variety of case systems from a typological perspective (including various split ergative systems, Kasusaufnahme, and differential object marking) and aims to develop a theoretical understanding of them, in particular the role of case in voice alternations (passive, antipassive, and other valence-changing morphology). Special attention is paid to Austronesian, Australian, Native American, Indo-Aryan, European, Turkic, Eskimo, Basque, and Caucasian languages.

Requirements
Active participation (reading and discussion); presentation of one of the assigned readings or a substitute of your choice (agreed upon with me) to the class (with a handout); a final paper.

Weeks (very rough, subject to change
1. Introduction. Jespersen, Fillmore, Blake, Dixon, [Rude, Bok Bennema, Silverstein]
2. Ura, Woolford, Marantz, Mahajan, Bobalijk
3. Maling et al, Bresnan, Perlmutter and Postal [Pollard and Sag]
4. Bittner and Hale
5. Aissen [Jäger?]
6. How (morphologically) complex is the passive?: Kratzer
7. Legate, Svenonius
8. Acquisition and processing: Fox and Grodzinsky, Marantz et al., processing, deficits
9. Open
10. Open

Readings


