LING 314 Syntax and Semantics of Modern Turkish

Class hours: (MMThTh 1212 – EF116-EF116, NH401-NH401)

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Course Description: This course aims at investigating the syntactic and semantic properties of Modern Standard Turkish. The following topics will be covered throughout the semester: the basic structure of sentences and their meaning, sentence types, the components of a sentence and the relations between them in terms of predicate-argument structure in relation to thematic roles. The course will also touch upon the issues regarding grammatical functions and pragmatic prominence. Note that this course will be done through team-teaching. Please see the schedule for the lecturers of each week.

Evaluation

(i)   Assignments, attendance and class participation (%15)
(ii)   Midterm exam (35%)
(iii)   Final exam (50%)

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY:

- Passing grade is 55 for the course.
- You are encouraged to work with your peers for the assignments but are asked to do the writing on your own.
- Late submissions for the assignments will not be accepted.
- The students who have not taken the mid-terms will not be able to take the final exam.
- Make sure your e-mail in the ÖBİKAS system is the one you check every day.
- All the materials including lecture notes will be posted on Moodle. Therefore, please check the Moodle page of the course regularly.

Tentative Course Plan

Week	Dates	Topic	Lecturer	Readings	Notes
1	Feb. 6	Introduction, Clause structure (verbal/non-verbal predicates)	Didar Akar	Class notes	
2	Feb. 10, 13	Phrase Structure, syntactic categories (verb, noun, etc.)	Kadir Gökgöz	Class notes	
3	Feb. 17, 20	Argument Structure (case-theta roles)	Kadir Gökgöz	Class notes	
4	Feb. 24, 27	Predicate types, argument structure changing operations	A. Sumru Özsoy	Özsoy 2009 Taylan 1979	

5	March 2, 5	Specificity, Referentiality, Incorporation	Elena Guerzoni	TBA	
6	March 9, 12	Composition of nouns, DP structure	Ceyda Arslan Kechriotis	Görgülü 2014, Arslan Kechriotis 2009	Assignment #1 due date
7	March 16, 19	Possessives and noun (-sI) compounds	Metin Bağrıaçık	Bağrıaçık 2015 Kunduracı 2013	
8	March 23, 26	Clause types, existentials, subordinate clause types (complements and adverbial clauses)	Ömer Demirok	Demirok 2019 (mandatory), Kural 1993 (optional)	**Midterm during class hours (Thursday)**
9	March 30, April 2	Negation	Didar Akar	Taylan 1986	
10	April 6, 9	Word order and information structure	Aslı Gürer	Göksel & Özsoy 2000, Gürer 2020 (selected pages)	
11	April 13, 16	Questions	Aslı Göksel	Göksel et al. 2009 Göksel & Kerslake 2005 (selected pages)	Assignment #2 due date
		Spring break			
12	April 27, 29	Aspect	Eser Erguvanlı Taylan	Taylan 2015	
13	May 4, 7	Modality	Eser Erguvanlı Taylan	Taylan 1996 Yavaş 1982	
14	May 11	Processing aspects of Turkish syntax	Pavel Logačev	TBA	Assignment #3 due date

Reading Materials

Arslan Kechriotis, C. 2009. Referentiality in Turkish: NP/DP. In S. Ay et al. (eds.), *Essays on Turkish Linguistics: Proceedings of the 14th ICTL*.

Bağrıaçık, Metin and Angela Ralli. 2015. Phrasal vs. morphological compounds: Insights from Modern Greek and Turkish. *STUF-Language Typology and Universals* 68:323-357 (doi:10.1515/stuf-2015-0016).

Demirok, Ö. 2019. A Semantic Characterization of Turkish Nominalizations. In *Proceedings of the 36th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*, ed. Richard Stockwell et al. (pp. 132-142).

Göksel, A. & Kerslake, C. 2005. *Turkish, A Comprehensive Grammar*. London: Routledge.

Göksel, A. & Özsoy, A. S. 2000. Is there a focus position in Turkish? In A. Göksel & C. Kerslake (Eds.) *Studies on Turkish and Turkic Languages; Proceedings of the Ninth International Conference on Turkish Linguistics*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz. (pp. 219 228).

Göksel, A., Kelepir, M. & Üntak-Tarhan, A. 2009. Decomposition of question intonation:The structure of response seeking utterances. In J. Grijzenhout & B. Kabak (Eds.)*, Phonological Domains; Universals and Deviations. Interface Explorations*. (pp. 249 286). Mouton de Gruyter.

Görgülü, E. 2014. Conditions on Argumenthood in Turkish. *Dilbilim Araştırmaları Dergisi* 2014/1, Boğaziçi Üniversitesi Yayınevi.

Gürer, A. 2019. Information structure within interfaces: Consequences for the phrase structure. Berlin & New York: Mouton de Gruyter. https://www.degruyter.com/view/product/485189

Kunduracı, Aysun. 2013. Pseudo-3rd person marker and possessive constructions in Turkish. *Online proceedings of the 2013 annual conference of the Canadian Linguistic Association*.

Kural, M. 1993. V-TO(-I-TO)-C in Turkish. *UCLA Occasional Papers in Linguistics,* vol. 11, p.17-53.

Özsoy, A. S. 2009. Argument Structure, Animacy, Syntax and Semantics of Passivization in Turkish: A corpus-based approach. In: Y. Kawaguchi, M. Minegishi & J. Durand (Eds.), Corpus Analysis and Variation in Linguistics. (pp. 259-279.Taylan.E. 2015. *The Phonology and Morphology of Turkish*, pp.171-200.

Taylan, E. E. 1979. An Odd Case in the Causative Construction of Turkish. *CLS*, 16: 92-100.

Taylan, E. E. 1986. Some aspects of negation in Turkish. In *Proceedings of the Turkish Linguistics Conference, August 9-10 1984* (pp. 159-179).

Taylan, E. E. 1996. On the parameter of aspect in Turkish. In *Proceedings of the 6th international conference on Turkish linguistics* (pp. 153-168).

Taylan, E. E. 2015. *The phonology and morphology of Turkish*. Boğaziçi Üniversitesi. (pp. 171-200)

Yavaş, F. 1982. The Turkish Aorist. *Glossa* 16:1, 40-53.