



**III ESCUELA DE LINGÜÍSTICA DE BUENOS AIRES**  
**11-16th February, 2019**

**BACKGROUND**

ELBA (*Escuela de Lingüística de Buenos Aires*) is a Linguistics summer school that has been taking place since 2016 with the sponsor of Instituto de Filología y Literaturas Hispánicas “Dr. Amado Alonso” and the Departamento de Letras de la Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, in Universidad de Buenos Aires.

ELBA is primarily aimed at fostering linguistic research locally and providing students from the areas of Language, Literature, Teacher Training and Translation, courses on different areas of Linguistics, especially those which have not been fully developed in our country.

ELBA is meant as a space where local and international students and professors can exchange and discuss ideas, tightening the bond between local and international linguistic research.

ELBA is held for a week in February and consists of four courses, lasting an hour and a half each (adding to seven and a half hours for each course). The day after the School finishes, a Workshop is held with the goal of providing both advanced students attending degree courses and graduate doctoral researchers a space to share and discuss their research.

ELBA is a non-profit organization. The registration fees are exclusively allocated to meeting the accommodation expenses of the invited professors.

**ELBA III - DATES AND VENUE**

*Biblioteca Casa de la Lectura* (Lavalleya 924, CABA), from 11th to 16th February 2019.

**ELBA III - COURSES**

- “Primer on Language Evolution: A Multidisciplinary and Empirical Course”, by Damian Blasi (Max Planck Institute, University of Zurich, Yale University)

- “The Nominal System across Languages. The formal approach”, by Roberta Pires de Oliveira (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina)
- “Constraint-based Models applied to the Phonology of Romance Languages”, by Clàudia Pons-Moll (Universitat de Barcelona)
- “Algunas Cuestiones sobre la Articulación entre Semántica y Sintaxis durante el Procesamiento de Relaciones Semánticas”, by Gabriela Zunino (CONICET-UBA)

### ELBA III - SCHEDULE

	Monday 11th	Tuesday 12th	Wednesday 13th	Thursday 14th	Friday 15th	Saturday 16th
10:00-11:30	Pons-Moll	Pons-Moll	Pons-Moll	Pons-Moll	Pons-Moll	III ELBA Workshop
12:00-13:30	Zunino	Zunino	Zunino	Zunino	Zunino	
13:30-15:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
15:00-16:30	Blasi	Blasi	Blasi	Blasi	Blasi	
17:00-18:30	Pires de Oliveira	Pires de Oliveira	Pires de Oliveira	Pires de Oliveira	Pires de Oliveira	

### COURSES SPECIFICATIONS

<p><b>The Nominal System across Languages. The formal approach</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Roberta Pires de Oliveira (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina)</p> <p>The aim is to review the most important aspects of the semantics of noun phrases in contemporary semantics. The focus is on bare noun phrases across languages, comparing them to indefinite and definite phrases. This allows us to review the basic building blocks of contemporary semantics, the notion of kinds, Chierchia’s semantic parameters, and Link’s formalization of the notions of plurality and mass. The last class reviews some experiments on bare nouns in Brazilian Portuguese, and the controversy on mass and count across languages.</p>
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<p><b>Constraint-based models applied to the phonology of Romance languages</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clàudia Pons-Moll (Universitat de Barcelona)</p> <p>The purpose of this one-week course is to introduce the assistants to the basics of the mainstream constraint-based models of phonological analysis, specifically to Optimality Theory (Prince &amp; Smolensky 1993 / 2004) and to Harmonic Grammar (Smolensky 1986, Smolensky &amp; Legendre 2006). The course will show how these</p>
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models can shed light on a variety of syllabically-driven phenomena drawn from Romance languages (including European and Latin American Spanish, Catalan, Sardinian, European and Brazilian Portuguese, etc.), and on a set of patterns found in the loanword phonology of some Romance languages. The course will also illustrate how these models deal with phonological variation, phonological change, and phonological acquisition and learning.

### **Primer on Language Evolution: A Multidisciplinary and Empirical Course**

Damián Blasi

(Max Planck Institute, University of Zurich, Yale University)

How language evolved is one of the most divisive, ill-defined and complex open questions in the study of language, to the point that it has been referred as “the hardest problem in science” (Christiansen and Kirby 2003). Since linguistic behavior does not fossilize, speculation - and often wild speculation - has historically accounted for the majority of the literature in the field, which has led some researchers to argue that by and large language evolution remains a mystery for contemporary science (Hauser et al 2014). Yet a surge in empirical approaches to language evolution in the last fifteen years has opened up a few possible pathways for the field to become a normal science. Contemporary arguments are not based on linguistic material only but they rely on comparative evidence from other animal communication systems, evolutionary anthropology, archeology, paleogenetics, cognitive sciences and practically any field of knowledge that has something to say about humans. In this course, I will provide a bird’s-eye view on some of the most promising lines of research spanning several disciplines and points of view, stressing known-facts above speculation, discussing data when adequate and pointing out the limitations and opportunities brought by this new wave of ideas and methods. The course will cover diverse topics including: genetic adaptations in humans associated with speech (and maybe language), new languages emerging in slaveries and deaf communities, material culture and behavioral complexity in Neanderthals, vocal learning in avian and mammal species, large-scale changes inferred from history in the structure of languages, the drive for cooperation in humans and the parallels between biological and linguistic diversity, among others.

## **Some Issues on the Interaction of Semantics and Syntax in the processing of Semantic Relations**

Gabriela Zunino  
(Universidad de Buenos Aires, CONICET)

A key aspect in the study of language processing involves accounting for how multiple variables interact either simultaneously or in overlapping times. In this sense, it is crucial to provide more detailed analyses of the different ways in which semantic information can interact with syntactic information, thus modulating the complex processing of sentences and texts/discourses (Crocker, Pickering & Clifton, 2000; Culicover, 2013; Fabricius-Hansen & Ramm, 2008, Haggort & van Berkum, 2007; Hinzen & Poeppel, 2011; Kuperberg, 2007; Kuperberg & Jaeger, 2016; Steinhauer et al., 2010).

This course builds on this general idea, focusing particularly on the presentation and the analysis of empirical evidence resulting from psycho- and neuro- linguistic studies. Some of the issues which will be discussed include: a. What kind of semantic information could be analysed to study the interaction between syntax and semantics?; b. Can semantic and syntactic representations be isolated or set apart as independent instances during language processing?; How do these matters fit in the discussion about top-down/bottom-up processing and serial and interactive models?; d. How can these interactions occur in incremental and predictive processing?

Within this general scheme, some specific cases where these issues necessarily arise will be discussed and special attention will be paid to issues regarding the intervention/conditioning of our background knowledge – for example, our causal expectations – during the comprehension process of texts and sentences (Hagoort, Hald, Bastlaansen & Perterson, 2004; Noordman & Vonk, 1998; Noordman, Vonk, Cozijn & Frank, 2014; Zunino, 2014; 2016; 2017).

### **WORKSHOP PROGRAM**

<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Activities</b>
10:00-11:00	<i>Invited Speaker</i> <b>"How Weighted Scalar Constraints account for loanword nativization patterns"</b> Clàudia Pons-Moll (Universitat de Barcelona)
11:00-11:15	Break

11:15-11:45	<p><b>“La alternancia temática en verbos transitivos. Un estudio de juicios de aceptabilidad”</b></p> <p>Ailín Franco (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p> <p>María Elina Sánchez (Universidad de Buenos Aires - CONICET)</p>
11:45-12:15	<p><b>“Los dativos aplicativos en la comprensión de oraciones de relativo”</b></p> <p>Marisol Murujosa (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p> <p>Carolina Gattei (Universidad de Buenos Aires - Universidad Torcuato Di Tella - CONICET)</p> <p>Diego Shalom (Universidad de Buenos Aires - Universidad Torcuato Di Tella - CONICET)</p> <p>Yamila Sevilla (Universidad de Buenos Aires - CONICET)</p>
12:15-12:45	<p><b>“El problema de la flexión verbal en los sujetos con afasia agramática”</b></p> <p>Camila Stecher (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p> <p>María Elina Sánchez (Universidad de Buenos Aires - CONICET)</p> <p>Virginia Jaichenco (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p>
12:45-14:15	Lunch
14:15-15:15	<p><i>Invited Speaker</i></p> <p><b>“The syntax-semantics of Bare Nouns in English and in BrP”</b></p> <p>Roberta Pires de Oliveira (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina)</p>
15:15-15:30	Break

15:30-16:00	<p><b>“Una crítica hacia el tratamiento de las representaciones semánticas en Forma Lógica”</b></p> <p>María Florencia Silva (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p>
16:00-16:30	<p><b>“Estaría siendo otro tipo de significado: un análisis del condicional de Twitter desde la semántica multidimensional”</b></p> <p>Sofía Micaela Checchi Ugrotte (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p>
16:30-17:00	<p><b>“Juicios de aceptabilidad en Español: Cuándo y cómo llevar a cabo un experimento formal”</b></p> <p>Santiago Gualchi (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p> <p>Federico Álvarez (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p> <p>Laura Tallon (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p> <p>Charo Zacchigna (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p>
17:00-17:15	Break
17:15-17:45	<p><b>“What infinitives have in common and what they don’t: a syntactic approach to verbal and nominal data from Brazilian Portuguese”</b></p> <p>Maurício Resende (Universidade Estadual de Campinas)</p>
17:45-18:15	<p><b>“Perífrasis “entrar + infinitivo”: un estudio aspectual”</b></p> <p>Victoria Ferrero (Universidad de Buenos Aires)</p>

18:15-18:45	<b>“Syntactic forces in the development of the English ‘phrasal verb’”</b> José María Oliver (Universidad Nacional de La Plata)
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**CONTACT:** [elbalinguistics@gmail.com](mailto:elbalinguistics@gmail.com)

**WEB SITE:** <https://sites.google.com/site/elbahomep/home>

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Under the auspices of the *Instituto de Filología y Literaturas Hispánicas “Dr. Amado Alonso”* of the *Universidad de Buenos Aires* and the *Departamento de Letras of the Facultad de Filosofía y Letras of the Universidad de Buenos Aires*.