

# **Adjectives and Relative Clauses: Syntax and Semantics**

June 16-17, 2010  
Venice, Università Ca'Foscari  
Aula Magna, Ca' Dolfin (Dorsoduro 3825/e)

The Department of Linguistics of the University of Venice and the Chaire d'Excellence 'Semantic Structure and Ontological Structure' (Paris) announce a two-day workshop Adjectives and Relative Clauses: Syntax and Semantics.

## **Workshop Description:**

Adjectives and relative clauses have received a lot of attention in the recent (and not so recent) syntactic and semantic literature, but there are many unresolved issues and controversies concerning the two kinds of noun modifiers.

On the syntactic side, various different analyses of adjective modifiers have been proposed, as heads of the extended projection of N, as phrasal specifiers of dedicated functional projections, as predicates of reduced relative clauses, or as a combination of these. Also relative clauses have been analyzed in various ways, as clausal complements of a determiner, as clauses predicated of a projection of N, or as clausal specifiers in the nominal extended projection. There are also different views concerning the head of relative clauses: just one head internal to the relative clause (as on the "raising" analysis) or two heads, one external and one internal to the relative clause (as on the "matching" analysis).

On the semantic side, there is a standard analysis of adjective and relative clause modifiers, namely as expressions whose denotation, in general, is intersected with that of the head noun. Such a view, however, faces a range of challenges, for example from 'relative clauses of the third kind', such as amount relatives and internally headed relatives, and a range of semantic differences that can be observed between adjectives that modify nouns directly and adjectives acting as predicates, as in (reduced or unreduced) relative clause constructions. Moreover, the standard analysis does not seem to give justice to the syntactic structures that have more recently been proposed for noun phrases as well as to semantic differences between nouns and adjectives, such as the sortal-nonsortal distinction.

The aim of the conference is to promote a discussion among syntacticians and semanticists on the different syntactic and semantic analyses of adjective and relative clause constructions and most importantly on the connection between syntactic structures involving adjectives or relative clauses and their semantic interpretation.

## **Invited Speakers:**

**Mark Baker** (Rutgers University)

**Guglielmo Cinque** (University of Venice)

**Alexander Grosu** (Tel-Aviv University)

**Jim Higginbotham** (University of Southern California)

**Richard Kayne** (New York University)

**Louise McNally** (University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona)

**Friederike Moltmann** (IHPST (Paris1/ENS/CNRS), Paris)

	Wednesday, June 16	Thursday, June 17
	<b>Morning session</b>	<b>Morning session</b>
<b>9.30-10.30</b>	<b>Louise McNALLY</b> (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)  <i>Resolving Modifier-Noun Relations</i>	<b>Mark C. Baker</b> (Rutgers University)  <i>On the Morphosyntactic Distinctives of Adjective</i>
<b>10.30-11.15</b>	<b>Olga Mitrenina</b> (St.Petersburg State University)  <i>Towards a Typology of Correlatives</i>	<b>Itamar Francez</b> (University of Chicago) <b>Andrew Koontz-Garboden</b> (University of Manchester) <i>The Grammar of Property Possession</i>
<b>11.15-11.30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>11.30-12.15</b>	<b>Andreas Blümel</b> (Goethe Universität Frankfurt)  <i>Derjenige Determiner that Requires a Relative Clause</i>	<b>Aya Meltzer-Asscher</b> (Tel-Aviv University)  <i>On the Lexical Representation of Adjectives</i>
<b>12.15-13.00</b>	<b>Philippe Schlenker</b> (Institut Jean-Nicod/NYU)  <i>On Non-Restrictive Relative Clauses</i>	<b>Sascha Alexejenko</b> (University of Osnabrück)  <i>What is Famous about a Famous Workaholic</i>
<b>13.00-15.00</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>
	<b>Afternoon session</b>	<b>Afternoon session</b>
<b>15.00-16.00</b>	<b>Richard Kayne</b> (New York University)  <i>More on Relative Pronouns</i>	<b>James T. Higginbotham</b> (University of Southern California)  <i>What is Modification?</i>
<b>16.00-16.45</b>	<b>Cécile Meier</b> (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt)  <i>Three Kinds of Amount Relative: a Non-Unified Analysis</i>	<b>Petra Sleeman</b> (ACLC, University of Amsterdam)  <i>Deverbal Modifiers of the Noun</i>
<b>16.45-17.00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>17.00-18.00</b>	<b>Friederike Moltmann</b> (IHPST-CNRS/Paris1/ENS)  <i>Individual Concepts and Intensional Relative Clauses</i>	<b>Guglielmo Cinque</b> (University of Venice)  <i>The Classification of Adjectives: Can Syntax and Semantics Converge?</i>
<b>18.00-18.15</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>18.15-19.15</b>	<b>Alexander Grosu</b> (Tel-Aviv University)  <i>Pivot Choice and Temporal Restrictions in the Simplex and Complex Internally-Headed Relatives of Japanese</i>	<b>General discussion</b>

**Alternate speakers:**

**Marta DONAZZAN, Carmen DOBROVIE-SORIN**  
(Université Paris 8, Département Sciences du Langage)  
*Nominalizers and Relativization Strategies*

**Katia PAYKIN, Fayssal TAYALATI, Danièle VAN DE VELDE**  
(Université de Lille 3, UMR 8163 « STL »)  
*When Being is Doing*