

Gastvortrag
Beyond Universal
Grammar:
The Emergence of
I-Language from
a Developmental Point
of View

Dr. Mario Navarro,
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15. Juni 2023, 12 Uhr
Seminarraum 0.09.23
Gebäude O, Ebene 09, Raum 23

Alle Interessierten sind herzlich eingeladen!

Romanistik

Fakultät für Geistes-
und Kulturwissenschaften



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Dr. Mario Navarro promovierte an der Universität Hamburg. Die Schwerpunkte seiner Forschung sind: Sprachtheorie, syntaktische Variation aus synchroner und diachroner Perspektive und Biolinguistik – Sprachevolution. Seine Publikationen und Vorträge finden Sie unter: <https://www.slm.uni-hamburg.de/romanistik/personen/navarro.html>.

Focusing on the individual knowledge which a speaker/listener possesses to master and use a natural language, language faculty is defined as a natural object (Chomsky 1959, 1964). Its cognitive design, as well as its development in the brain, has been considered as a specification of the human genome (Lenneberg 1967). From this point of view, Universal Grammar (UG) or the language genotype, is conceived as the central component of the biological nature of human (Chomsky 1976).

However, the growing criticism on radical pre-programmatic geneticism has to be taken into account in the (bio)linguistic agenda (Balari et al. 2020). As genotypes cannot lead per se to the specification of a biological trait, other factors such as epigenetic aspects and eco-environmental effects should be considered to capture the developmental nature of human language (Lorenzo & Longa 2009). In this sense, UG is a necessary condition, but not a sufficient one.

The talk will present the importance of interactional factors in the emergence of biological traits (i.e., I-languages) by addressing Object Shift, Clitic Doubling, and Null Subjects in the Romance languages.

Kontakt

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