**Name of the course:** Topics in Ellipsis  
**Lecturer name:** David Erschler  
**Course number:**  
**Office hours:** Monday 12:00-13:00

**Short course description**
In this seminar, we will study ellipsis – a phenomenon whereby some normally expected material is absent from an utterance. We will overview more commonly studied ellipsis varieties and discuss general theoretical approaches to the derivation of ellipsis. We will examine in detail several types of ellipsis: sluicing (Mary wrote something, but I don’t remember what), fragment answers (What did Frankenstein create? A monster) gapping (Mary wrote a novel, and Percy, a poem), and stripping (Mary liked writing, and Percy too). Finally, we will see how ellipsis allows us to account for various displacement phenomena. Key words: syntax, ellipsis, sluicing, gapping, stripping, islands.

**Course requirements:**
Attendance required yes  
1. Active participation in class discussion____ 10%  
2. Presentation________________ 20%  
3. Final assignment 70%

Week 1 Introduction; The overall empirical landscape (Merchant & Craenebroeck 2013)  
Week 2 Deep & Surface ellipsis. Diagnosing ellipsis; Merchant (2013)  
Week 3 Sluicing I Merchant (2001)  
Week 4 Islands.  
Week 5 To move or not to move? Arguments against exceptional movement analyses. Abe (2016); Ott  
Week 6 Licensing. E-giveness; QUD Merchant (2001); Barros & Kotek (2018)  
Week 10 Split questions. Arregi (2010)  
Week 12 Gapping, stripping, polar ellipsis. Depiante (2000)  
Week 13 Ellipsis as a way to account for displacement phenomena. Ott (2014); Ott & De Vries (2016).

**Readings**


Lipták, Anikó. 2019. Fragments with correction. Linguistic Inquiry https://doi.org/10.1162/ling_a_00333


Supplementary readings


