



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב  
הפקולטה למדעי הרוח והחברה

המחלקה לספרויות זרות ובלשנות, תש"פ 2019-20

**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:**

<b>Attendance required</b>	<b>yes</b>	
<b>1. Active participation in class discussion</b>		<b>10%</b>
<b>2. Presentation</b>		<b>20%</b>
<b>3. Final assignment</b>		<b>70%</b>

סילבוס מפורט של הקורס (נושאים, לוח זמנים, ספרות חובה/בחירה וכדומה)

Week 1 Introduction; The overall empirical landscape (Merchant & Craenbroeck 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-givenness; QUD Merchant (2001); Barros & Kotek (2018)

Week 7 Sluicing and islands. Merchant (2001) Non-isomorphic sluicing. Sluicing in in situ languages.

Gribanova & Manetta (2016)

Week 8 Generalized sluicing. Van Craenbroeck & Lipták (2006) on Hungarian.

Week 9 Various manifestations of TP-deletion. Formation of fragment answers. Merchant (2005)

Week 10 Split questions. Arregi (2010)

Week 11 Gapping, stripping, polar ellipsis. Vicente (2010); Yoshida et al (2015).

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**

Abe, Jun. 2016. Make short answers shorter: Support for the in situ approach. *Syntax* 19: 223-255.

Aelbrecht, Lobke. 2010. *The syntactic licensing of ellipsis*. Amsterdam/New York: John Benjamins.

Arregi, Karlos. 2010. Ellipsis in split questions. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 28. 539-592.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11049-010-9097-x>

Kotek, Hadas and Matthew Barros. 2018. Multiple sluicing, scope, and superiority: Consequences for ellipsis identity. *Linguistic Inquiry* 49(4): 781–812.

Craenbroeck, Jeroen van & Lipták, Anikó. 2006. The cross-linguistic syntax of sluicing: evidence from Hungarian relatives. *Syntax* 9(3): 248-274.

- Craenenbroeck, Jeroen van & Merchant, Jason. 2013. Ellipsis phenomena. In: M. den Dikken (ed.), *The Cambridge Handbook of Generative Syntax*, 701–745. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Depiante, Marcela. 2000. The syntax of deep and surface anaphora: A study of null complement anaphora and stripping/bare argument ellipsis. UConn PhD Thesis.
- Gribanova, Vera & Manetta, Emily. 2016. Ellipsis in wh-in-situ languages: deriving apparent sluicing in Hindi-Urdu and Uzbek. *Linguistic Inquiry* 47(4): 631-668.
- Hankamer, Jorge & Ivan Sag. 1976. Deep and surface anaphora. *Linguistic Inquiry* 7: 391–428.
- İnce, Atakan. 2012. Fragment answers and islands. *Syntax* 15: 181–214.
- Lipták, Anikó. 2019. Fragments with correction. *Linguistic Inquiry* [https://doi.org/10.1162/ling\\_a\\_00333](https://doi.org/10.1162/ling_a_00333)
- Merchant, Jason. 2001. *The syntax of silence: Sluicing, islands, and the theory of ellipsis*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Merchant, Jason. 2005. Fragments and ellipsis. *Linguistics & Philosophy* 27: 661-738. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10988-005-7378-3>
- Merchant, Jason. 2013a. Diagnosing ellipsis. In Lisa Lai-Shen Cheng and Nobert Corver (eds.), *Diagnosing syntax*, 537-542. Oxford University Press: Oxford.
- Ott Dennis, De Vries M, 2016. Right-dislocation as deletion, *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*, Volume 34, Issue 2, 641-690.
- Ott D. 2014. An ellipsis approach to contrastive left-dislocation, *Linguistic Inquiry*, Volume 45, Issue 2, 269-303.
- Ott Dennis & Struckmeier, Volker. 2018. Particles and deletion. *Linguistic Inquiry* 49: 393-407.
- Szabolsci, Anna & Terje Longdahl. 2017. Strong vs. Weak Islands. In: Martin Everaert & (eds.) Henk van Riemsdijk. *The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Syntax*, Second Edition.
- Temmerman, Tanja. 2013. On the syntax of Dutch embedded fragment answers: on the PF-theory of islands and the WH/sluicing correlation. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 31: 235-285.
- Vicente, Luis. 2010. A note on the movement analysis of gapping. *Linguistic Inquiry* 41(3), 509-517.
- Yoshida, Masaya, Chizuru Nakao, and Ivan Ortega-Santos. 2015. The syntax of *why*-stripping. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 33:323–370.

#### Supplementary readings

- Authier, Jean-Marc. 2011. A movement analysis of French Modal Ellipsis. *Probus* 23(2). 175-216.
- Boeckx, Cedric. 2012. *Syntactic islands*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Craenenbroeck, Jeroen van. 2012. How do you sluice when there is more than one CP? In: J. Merchant & A. Craenenbroeck, Jeroen van & Temmerman, Tanja. 2018. *The Oxford Handbook of Ellipsis*. Oxford: OUP.
- Simpson (eds.), *Sluicing. Cross-Linguistic Perspectives*, 40–67. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Jayaseelan, K. A. 1990. Incomplete VP deletion and Gapping. *Linguistic Analysis* 20: 64–81.
- Ross, John R. 1967. *Constraints on variables in syntax*. Doctoral dissertation, MIT.