



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
הפקולטה למדעי הרוח והחברה

המחלקה לספרויות זרות ובלשנות – שנת הלימודים תשפ"א 2020-21

שם הקורס: סימון מושא ישיר בשפות שמיות – Object Marking in Semitic Languages

שם המרצה: ד"ר אולגה קגן

In this course, we will investigate the phenomenon of differential object marking (DOM) in Semitic languages. DOM is a phenomenon whereby the object of a verb may be either marked or unmarked for case, depending on a range of its properties. We will consider object marking patterns in such languages as Arabic, Hebrew, Amharic and Neo-Aramaic and discuss semantic and syntactic approaches to the phenomenon. We will see how DOM interacts with specificity, definiteness, object agreement and semantic type.

Differential object marking: a cross-linguistic perspective. The role of animacy, definiteness and specificity.

Et in Hebrew: syntactic versus semantic definiteness; semantic type; the NP/DP contrast; partitivity.

La in Arabic: definiteness, object agreement, pragmatic factors.

The suffix *-n* in Amharic: definiteness, specificity, the interaction between accusative case and object agreement.

Et in Biblical Hebrew and individuation.

yt and *l-* in Aramaic from a diachronic perspective.

Selected References:

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3. Bekins, P. 2014. Transitivity and Object Marking in Biblical Hebrew: An Investigation of the Object Preposition 'et. Brill.
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