Sprachtypologie und Sprachvergleich: Baskisch

Day & Time	Tuesdays, 13:00–15:00
Place	II.24.1.54
Course website	`http://www.luisvicente.net/teaching/basque/main.html`
Instructor	Luis Vicente
Email	`vicente@ling.uni-potsdam.de`
Where to find me	Haus 35, office 1.03
Office hours	Preferably by appointment, but spontaneous drop-ins are also welcome.

1 Overview of the course

This course offers the students an introduction to Basque, a non-Indo-European isolated language spoken in Northern Spain and (to a lesser extent) Southern France. The first weeks will be devoted to an exposition of its major phonological, morphological, and syntactic features. After that, we will conduct an in-depth exploration of two aspects of the language that have featured prominently in the literature: (1) the connection between word order, intonation, and information structure; and (2) the verbal agreement system.

2 Tentative schedule

Date	Topic
October 22	General introduction to the course; history and current socio-political situation of Basque.
October 27	Basics of phonetics and segmental phonology
November 3	Basics of prosody
November 10	Basics of morphology (I)
November 17	Basics of morphology (II)
November 24	Basics of syntax (I)
December 1	Basics of syntax (II)
December 8	Advanced syntax: factors of word order variation (I)
December 15	Advanced syntax: factors of word order variation (II)
Christmas break	
January 5	Advanced syntax: factors of word order variation (III)
January 12	Advanced syntax: factors of word order variation (IV)
January 19	Advanced syntax: case, agreement, and agreement displacement (I)
January 26	Advanced syntax: case, agreement, and agreement displacement (II)
February 2	Advanced syntax: case, agreement, and agreement displacement (III)
February 9	Advanced syntax: case, agreement, and agreement displacement (IV)

3 Pass requirements

- Class attendance and active participation: 20%
- Weekly homework assignments: 40%
- Final project: 40%

4 Literature

Most of the material for the first part of the course will be taken from the following two reference books:

- Hualde, José Ignacio, and Jon Ortiz de Urbina. 2003. *A grammar of Basque*. Berlin: de Gruyter.
- de Rijk, Rudolf. 2008. *Standard Basque: a progressive grammar*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

The Neues Paleis library has a copy of Hualde and Ortiz de Urbina (EX 920 HUA). Currently, the university has no copy of de Rijk, but you are welcome to peruse my own personal copy.

For the rest of the course, we will draw from among the following sources, and others that might become relevant.

- Arregi, Karlos. 2003. Focus on Basque movements. Doctoral dissertation, MIT.
- Elordieta, Arantzazu. 2001. Verb movement and constituent permutation in Basque. Doctoral dissertation, Leiden University.
- Elordieta, Gorka. 1997. Morphosyntactic feature chains and phonological domains. Doctoral dissertation, University of Southern California.
- Hualde, José Ignacio, Gorka Elordieta, and Arantzazu Elordieta. 1994. *The Basque dialect of Lekeitio*. Leioa: University of the Basque Country.
- Lakarra, Joseba, and Jon Ortiz de Urbina (1992) *Syntactic theory and Basque syntax*, San Sebastián: Diputación Foral de Gipuzkoa.
- Ortiz de Urbina, Jon. 1989. *Parameters in the grammar of Basque*. Dordrecht: Kluwer.
- Ortiz de Urbina, Jon. 1994. Verb initial patterns in Basque and Breton. *Lingua* 94:125-153.
- Rezac, Milan. 2004. Elements of cyclic syntax. Doctoral dissertation, University of Toronto.
- Uriagereka, Juan. 1999. Minimal restrictions on Basque movements. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 17:403-444.