

In the meeting of the syntax-semantics colloquium of IEAS,

**Dianne Jonas (Frankfurt a.M.)**

will give a talk on

# **Morphosyntactic change – a case study of the verb *think***

When? 15.1.2018, 16.15-17.45  
Where? IG 3.201

## **Abstract**

The topic of this paper is the comparative diachronic morphosyntax of *think* in English, Icelandic, Swedish, and Faroese. First, there is an overview of the morphosyntactic properties of the verb in the older languages and then a comparison of their development through to the modern languages. Of particular interest here are the case marking patterns that we find and the changes that occur between the older and modern languages. In addition, I give an overview of the syntactic properties of the verb *think* and how these properties change across time – complement types such as *that*-clauses, non-finite clauses, and small clauses. The Faroese verb *tykja* and its cognates in Old Swedish and Middle English show a common and relatively cross-linguistically unusual case marking pattern where the experiencer argument is marked with dative case and accusative case marking occurs on the subject of a small clause/non-finite complement. The languages differ in interesting ways with respect to case-marking patterns and the syntax of the constructions exhibiting this pattern in addition to their diachronic development. The final part of the paper provides a brief overview of the outcomes of diachronic change with respect to the verb *think* across the languages considered here.

Everyone is cordially invited!

*Manfred Sailer, Frank Richter, Gert Webelhuth*

You will find an up-to-date program of our colloquium at:

<https://www.english-linguistics.de/oberseminar/oberseminar-wise-201718/>