# LaTeX for linguists

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## Course info

### Level

- **basic** for the first session (9/10/2019, 9:00 – 12:00)
- **intermediate** for the second session (9/10/2019, 13:30 – 16:30)

## Course description

Students often struggle with the technical complexity of a thesis and waste a lot of time typesetting and structuring it in a less efficient way. Many express a desire to write their theses in LaTeX, but often they are afraid of the learning curve, hence we offer this course.

LaTeX is a very powerful typesetting system developed for complex scientific documents. Next to superior typography, it offers many tools to make life easier for linguists. For instance, the handling of references is automated, interlinear examples can be automatically aligned, and complex trees can be generated from bracketing notation. LaTeX files are robust, can easily be versioned and are lightweight.

In this course, we use the web platform Overleaf. Overleaf is a web-based LaTeX editor, which could be compared to Google Docs. For the purpose of this course, it is not required that students have a LaTeX installation on their computer; a modern browser is enough.

We will start with a very simple test document to get acquainted with the way LaTeX works. Teaching will be interactive, i.e. every student needs to bring their own laptop to work on their own small document. The teachers will explain the basic principles, which the students apply to their own documents as we move along. In between explanations, there will be room for the teachers to help with any occurring problems.

The first session will introduce students to the basic mechanisms of LaTeX and the general structure of any document, creating a title, and a table of contents. We will then include different types of content for our document, like graphics, direct citations, and listings, and create tables. In the second session, we will move from the test document to a multi-file book, creating a style sheet for your own thesis. A multi-file document means that chapters consist of individual documents which are embedded into one master file. The book we will create will necessarily be very short, with only a couple of pages per chapter, but the principles are the same. Once the basic structure is understood, we will create a bibliography file and include references to the literature in our book. Lastly, we will deal with efficient ways to represent particular elements we find in linguistic texts, for instance interlinear examples and linguistic trees.

## Requirements

- Laptop
- EDUROAM (or another internet connection)
- Overleaf account (https://www.overleaf.com/register)
- In case you want to install LaTeX on your own computer, please send us a mail so we can help you.
- We will work with the web platform Overleaf, so the following is a good place to start:
  https://www.overleaf.com/help/28-im-new-to-latex-how-do-i-use-it#.W6TVb99fjRY

## Registration

In order to register for the course, please send a mail to Antonio Machicao y Priemer (mapriema@hu-berlin.de) specifying

- your status (PhD student, PostDoc, MA student, or BA student),
- the e-mail address of your Overleaf-account, and
- if you want to attend both or only one session (and which one).

**Deadline for registration:** 15/09/2019
**Notification of acceptance:** 18/09/2019