MGK Workshop – SFB 1412, Berlin

LaTeX for Linguists (Level: Basic)

General information

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Course website	https://www.linguistik.hu-berlin.de/staff/amyp/latex (The website will go online on the day the course starts.)

Course description

Students often struggle with the technical complexity of a thesis and lose a lot of time doing things in a less efficient way. Many express a desire to write their theses in LaTeX, but often they are afraid of the learning curve. 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. However, the very first steps with LaTeX can be tough. That is why the instructor will not only concentrate on what you can do with LaTeX, but also on the type of mistakes you can make.

In this course, we use the web platform Overleaf. Overleaf is a web-based LaTeX editor, which could be compared to GoogleDocs. 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 article to get acquainted with the way LaTeX works. Teaching will be interactive, i.e. every student will have their own computer and will work on their own small article. The instructor will explain the basic principles as we move along, which the students will then apply in their documents, i.e. explanations will alternate with excercises during the entire course. At the end of the course, we will move from the basic article to a book (in this case a dissertation template). The book will necessarily be a very short book with only a couple of pages, but the principles are the same. After the course, you will have your own short LaTeX manual in a dissertation template.

Requirements – Important!

- Computer and a stable internet connection
- (Free!) Overleaf account (https://www.overleaf.com/register)
- Please send an e-mail to Luisa Kalvelage (kalvelal@hu-berlin.de) by **November 9, 2020** specifying the **e-mail address** you used in your **Overleaf registration**. She will prepare your **Overleaf project** for the course and will send you the **zoom link** for our course by November 16.

Topics

1. Basics: What is LaTeX and how to use it?
2. Document classes: article, book, …
3. Syntax of commands
4. Adding meta data
5. Document structure: headlines, cross references, table of contents, footnotes, …
6. Characters and spaces
7. Commenting out: %
8. Text formatting: bold, small caps, font size, …
9. Text environments: quotations, lists, abstracts, …
10. Loading packages
11. Math mode and math packages
12. Customising your own commands
13. Graphics, tables, and floats
14. Bibliography, citations, bibliography styles
15. IPA
16. Verbatim: Writing code with LaTeX
17. Examples, glossing, translations
18. Trees
19. Syllabic structures
20. Sonority profiles
21. Venn diagrams
22. Vowel diagram
23. Debugging
24. Working with multi-files
25. Customising your own dissertation template

Time tables

18/11: 1st Day

14:30–16:00: 1st session
16:00–16:30: Pause
16:30–18:00: 2nd session
18:00–18:30: free session

19/11: 2nd Day

11:00–12:30: 3rd session
12:30–13:30: Pause
13:30–15:00: 4rd session
15:00–15:30: free session

20/11: 3rd Day

11:00–12:30: 5th session
12:30–13:30: Pause
13:30–15:00: 6th session
15:00–15:30: free session