Topics in Austronesian Syntax
2015 LSA Linguistics Institute
University of Chicago
Instructor: Edith Aldridge

Syllabus

Contact: aldr@uw.edu
Office hours: Lunch? Coffee? Just let me know after class or by email.

Dropbox site: https://www.dropbox.com/home/LSA%20Austronesian%20Syntax

Course description:
This course surveys syntactic phenomena and variation among Austronesian languages, including Formosan, Philippine, Indonesian, and Oceanic languages. A wide variety of phenomena will be examined, with special attention being given to the well-studied topics of word order and voice/alignment. This course will also consider how diachronic change accounts for syntactic variation among Austronesian languages.

Requirements: A passing grade in this course will depend on the following.
Regular attendance (approximately 20%)
Participation in class discussions (approximately 20%)
Submission of a squib on a topic relating to Austronesian syntax (approximately 60%)

Squib due date: Last day of class, by the beginning of class. Just email it to me.

Preliminary Course Schedule

Required readings are given first. Supplemental follow in parentheses.

7/6  Introduction: Variation in Austronesian alignment (“voice”)

7/9  Voice and extraction

7/13 Extraction and ergativity
7/16 Origin of the DP Extraction Restriction

7/20 Alternating VSO/VOS Word Order
(Sabbagh, Joseph. 2014. Word order and prosodic structure constraints in Tagalog. Syntax 17.1:40-89.)

7/23 VOS Word Order

7/27 Clefting

7/30 More History

Possibility 1: Irrealis > Ergative Alignment
(Aldridge, Edith. 2014. Ergativity from subjunctive in Austronesian languages. Ms., University of Washington.)