Course Description:

Languages differ startlingly in how they express the apparently basic concepts of “possession” and “essence”. Students explore this variety and its implications, addressing fundamental questions about linguistic relativism, language universals, and the relationship between structure and meaning.

- Compare formal and functional approaches to language typology.
- Think critically about links between grammar, thought, and culture.
- Learn to use online databases and descriptive grammars to do comparative research.
- Hands-on comparative linguistics: carry out your own research project on a language of your choice.

Possession: less scary than it looks.

Instructor:
Neil Myler
(Questions?
Contact myler@bu.edu)

Prereq:
CAS LX 250
(Introduction to Linguistics)