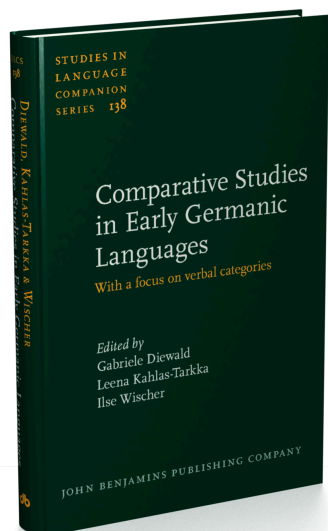


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Comparative Studies in Early Germanic Languages

With a focus on verbal categories

Edited by Gabriele Diewald, Leena Kahlas-Tarkka and Ilse Wischer

Leibniz University Hannover / University of Helsinki / University of Potsdam

This volume offers a coherent and detailed picture of the diachronic development of verbal categories of Old English, Old High German, and other Germanic languages. Starting from the observation that German and English show diverging paths in the development of verbal categories, even though they descended from a common ancestor language, the contributions present in-depth, empirically founded studies on the stages and directions of these changes combining historical comparative methods with grammaticalisation theory. This collection of papers provides the reader with an indispensable source of information on the early traces of distinct developments, thus laying the foundation for a broad-scale scenario of the grammaticalisation of verbal categories. The volume will be of particular interest to scholars of language change, grammaticalisation, and diachronic sociolinguistics; it offers important new insights for typologists and for everybody interested in the make-up of verbal categories.

[Studies in Language Companion Series, 138] 2013. vi, 318 pp.

HB 978 90 272 0605 3 EUR 99.00

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“This valuable collection of articles provides a wealth of detailed and systematically presented empirical information on specific topics related to verb constructions in Old Germanic languages. In several cases, a more complete factual picture of important developments is provided than is found elsewhere in the literature.”

John Ole Askedal

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