

Tel Aviv University  
School of Philosophy, Linguistics and Science Studies,  
Department of Linguistics

## THURSDAY INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLOQUIUM

Thursday 28/05/2026

16:15-17:45

Webb 103

Noa Bassel, University of Massachusetts Amherst

### Toward a simpler Binding Theory

Classical Binding Theory has been successful at capturing basic facts about the distribution of DPs, while raising some concerns at the empirical and conceptual levels. These include high-profile violations of Conditions A, B, and C that are nonetheless grammatical, and questions regarding the conditions' explanatory adequacy. This talk shows that broader empirical coverage may be achieved by reducing the number of conditions.

Specifically, I will show that many known counterexamples to the Binding Theory dissolve when we collapse the binding conditions to a single rule based on default disjointness. Building on ideas by Heim (1989) and Reinhart & Reuland (1993), I will propose that covaluation between local DPs is introduced by identity statements encoded by pronominal features (in anaphors) or assertions (in full DPs).

Click [here](#) to see the colloquium program.