ARTS2692

Syntax

Semester One // 2018

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Mengistu Amberber	m.amberber@unsw.edu.au	Thursday, 2pm-3pm, or by appointment	MB241	9385 2299

School Contact Information

School of Humanities and Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 4:45pm

Phone: +61 2 9385 1681

Fax: +61 2 9385 8705

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Attendance Requirements

A student is expected to attend all class contact hours for a face-to-face (F2F) or blended course and complete all activities for a blended or fully online course.

A student who arrives more than 15 minutes late may be penalised for non-attendance. If such a penalty is imposed, the student must be informed verbally at the end of class and advised in writing within 24 hours.

If a student experiences illness, misadventure or other occurrence that makes absence from a class/activity unavoidable, or expects to be absent from a forthcoming class/activity, they should seek permission from the Course Authority, and where applicable, their request should be accompanied by an original or certified copy of a medical certificate or other form of appropriate evidence.

A Course Authority may excuse a student from classes or activities for up to one month. However, they may assign additional and/or alternative tasks to ensure compliance. A Course Authority considering the granting of absence must be satisfied a student will still be able to meet the course's learning outcomes and/or volume of learning. A student seeking approval to be absent for more than one month must apply in writing to the Dean and provide all original or certified supporting documentation.

For more information about the attendance protocols in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to: requests for extension; review of marks; occupational health and safety; examination procedures; special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure; student equity and disability; and other essential academic information,
see https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Subject Area: *Linguistics*

This course focuses on syntax – traditionally defined as the study of the grammatical relation between words within the sentence. The course approaches the study of syntax from the perspective of generative linguistics. It explores the methodological foundations of the generative linguistics framework with particular reference to the place of syntax in the study of the human language faculty. The course investigates a number of key theoretical constructs that attempt to account for both universal and language-specific syntactic phenomena. You will have the opportunity to analyse data from English and a wide range of different languages.

At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to

1. Explain the conceptual and empirical foundations of generative syntax.
2. Apply basic techniques of syntactic analysis.
3. Analyse syntactic data and argue the merits of the analysis.
4. Construct models of syntactic knowledge to investigate and account for data from English and a wide range of different languages.

Teaching Strategies

The teaching strategies involve lectures and tutorials. The tutorials are designed to foster individual problem solving skills as well as engagement in collaborative teamwork.

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
In-class Test I	30%	13/04/2018 12:00 PM	2,3
In-class Test II	30%	18/05/2018 12:00 PM	1,2
Problem set	40%	01/06/2018 04:00 PM	1,2,3,4

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: In-class Test I

Start date: Not Applicable

Details: 1 hour test on topics covered in the lectures and tutorials. You will receive feedback individually and through class discussion.

Assessment 2: In-class Test II

Start date: Not Applicable

Details: 1 hour test on topics covered in the lectures and tutorials. You will receive feedback individually and through class discussion.

Assessment 3: Problem set

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: Approximately 1800 words

Details: This is a take-home assignment which covers all the major topics of the course. Length: 1800 words. Students will receive individual feedback. This is the final assessment task for attendance purposes.

Submission notes: The take-home problem set is handed out one week prior to its due date.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Students are expected to put their names and student numbers on every page of their assignments.

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au. Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

Late Assessment Penalties

An assessed task is deemed late if it is submitted after the specified time and date as set out in the course Learning Management System (LMS).

The late penalty is the loss of 5% of the total possible marks for the task for each day or part thereof the work is late. Lateness will include weekends and public holidays. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.

Work submitted fourteen (14) days after the due date will be marked and feedback provided but no mark will be recorded. If the work would have received a pass mark but for the lateness and the work is a compulsory course component, a student will be deemed to have met that requirement. This does not apply to a task that is assessed but no mark is awarded.

Work submitted twenty-one (21) days after the due date will not be accepted for marking or feedback and will receive no mark or grade. If the assessment task is a compulsory component of the course a student will automatically fail the course.

Special Consideration Applications

You can apply for special consideration when illness or other circumstances interfere with your assessment performance.

Sickness, misadventure or other circumstances beyond your control may:

* Prevent you from completing a course requirement,

* Keep you from attending an assessable activity,

* Stop you submitting assessable work for a course,

* Significantly affect your performance in assessable work, be it a formal end-of-semester examination, a class test, a laboratory test, a seminar presentation or any other form of assessment.

For further details in relation to Special Consideration including "When to Apply", "How to Apply" and "Supporting Documentation" please refer to the Special Consideration webstie:
https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit. It also applies to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without referencing and a student's own analysis to bring the material together.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose

- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW. (http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise)

Course Schedule

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 26 February - 4 March	Lecture	***Introduction☐ Parts of Speech*** *Syntax as a Cognitive Science; Modeling Syntax; Determining part of speech; subcategories and features* **Reading** Chapter 1 & Chapter 2 (textbook)
Week 2: 5 March - 11 March	Lecture	**Constituencey** *Rules and trees; constituency tests; ambiguity* **Reading** Chapter 3
	Tutorial	**Chapter 1: Generative Grammar** GPS1. Prescriptive Rules GPS2. Obligatory Split Infinitives **Chapter 2: Parts of Speech** GPS5. Part of speech GPS6. Nootka **(Exercises are from the textbook. Detailed instruction for each week's tutorial tasks, acitivities and expectation will be available on Moodle. You must consult Moodle regularly for updates).**
Week 3: 12 March - 18 March	Lecture	**Structural relations** *The geometry of trees; c-command and grammatical relations* **Reading** Chapter 4

	Tutorial	**Chapter 3: Constituency, Trees, and Rules** GPS1. Trees: NPs, AdjPs and AdvPs GPS2. Trees II: English PPs GPS4. Trees III: VPs GPS6. English [(a) – (e) only]
Week 4: 19 March - 25 March	Lecture	**Binding Theory** *The distribution of pronouns; the distribution of R-expressions* **Reading** Chapter 5
	Tutorial	**Chapter 4: Structural Relations** GPS1. Trees [(a) – (e) only] GPS2. Domination GPS3. Exhaustive domination GPS11. Grammatical Relations I
Week 5: 26 March - 1 April	Lecture	**Public holiday; no lecture** Online acitvities to be assigned on Moodle.
	Tutorial	**Public holiday; no tutorial** Online activities to be assigned on Moodle.
Break: 2 April - 8 April		
Week 6: 9 April - 15 April	Lecture	**X-bar theory** *Generalising the rules; complements, adjuncts, and specifiers;* **Reading** *Chapter 6* **(Class test (I) will be given during the second half of the lecture time. Further information will be provided on Moodle.)**
	Tutorial	**Chapter 5: Binding Theory** GPS1. NP Types GPS2. C-command and Binding

		GPS3. Binding Domain
		GPS4. Binding Principles
Week 7: 16 April - 22 April	Lecture	**Extending X-bar theory** *Determiner Phrases; Complementiser Phrases* **Reading** *Chapter 7*
	Tutorial	**Chapter 6: X-bar Theory** GPS1.Complements vs. Adjuncts in NPs GPS2. Adjectives GPS4. Complements and adjuncts in VPs GPS7. Trees [(a) – (d) only]
Week 8: 23 April - 29 April	Lecture	**Constraining X-bar theory** *Thematic relations and Theta roles; the lexicon* **Reading** *Chapter 8*
	Tutorial	**Chapter 7: Extending X-bar Theory** GPS1. Tree drawing: DPs GPS2. Subjects and Predicates Phrases GPS3. Clause Types GPS4. English *That*
Week 9: 30 April - 6 May	Lecture	**Auxiliaries and Functional Categories** *Complementisers; Determiners; Auxiliaries* **Reading** *Chapter 9*
	Tutorial	**Chapter 8: Constraining X-bar** GPS1. Identifying Thematic Relations GPS2. Warlpiri GPS3. Theta Grids [(a) – (e) only]

		GPS5. Theta Criterion
Week 10: 7 May - 13 May	Lecture	**Head Movement & DP Movement** *Verb Movement; T Movement; Do-support; Passives; Case; Raising* **Reading** Chapter 10 and Chapter 11
	Tutorial	**Chapter 9: Functional Categories** GPS1. Categorizing verbs GPS6. Tense, Voice, Aspect, Mood GPS8. English Trees [(a) – (e) only]
Week 11: 14 May - 20 May	Lecture	**Wh-Movement** *Wh-questions; Relative Clauses* **Reading** *Chapter 12* **(In Class test (II) will be given during the second half of the lecture time.)**
	Tutorial	**Chapter 10: Head-to-Head Movement** GPS1. Italian GPS2. Haitian Creole Verb Placement **Chapter 11: DP Movement** GPS1. Haitian Creole GPS2. Arizona Tewa
Week 12: 21 May - 27 May	Lecture	**Summary and conclusion** Revision of basic concepts
	Tutorial	**Chapter 12: *Wh*-Movement** GPS1. English Movement Sentences [(a)- (e)] GPS2. Binding Theory GPS5. Locality GPS6. Irish
Week 13: 28 May - 3	Lecture	**No lecture in Week 13.**

June	Tutorial	**Review exercises**

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Required textbooks

Carnie, A. 2013. *Syntax: A Generative Introduction*. 3rd Edition. Wiley-Blackwell.

Carnie, A. 2013. *The Syntax Workbook: A Companion to Carnie's Syntax*. Wiley-Blackwell.

Recommended Resources

- Book – Knowledge of Language: Its Nature, Origin & Use (1986)
- Book – The Minimalist Program (1995)
- Book – Chomsky's Universal Grammar : an Introduction
- Book – Introducing Transformational Grammar (1994)
- Book – Transformational Grammar: A First Course (1988)
- Book – The Language Instinct (1994)
- Book – Lectures on Contemporary Syntactic Theories (1985)

An extensive list of online resources is provided in Moodle. You must consult Moodle regularly for updates.

Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them.

Feedback is gathered from students using myExperience. It is encouraged students complete their surveys by accessing the personalised web link via the Moodle course site.

Image Credit

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