



School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies Course Outline

LALS 561, Syntactic Analysis, Trimester 2, 2008

1. Course Coordinator:

Elizabeth Pearce

VZ 303

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<http://www.vuw.ac.nz/lals>

2. Staff:

Lecturer: Elizabeth Pearce

3. Class times and rooms:

There will be ten two-hour classes on **Mondays 1:10-3:00 in 24KP, Room 101**, starting on **14 July** and with an additional preliminary meeting on **7 July**.

4. Announcements:

Noticeboards are in the corridor of VZ Level 3.

5. LALS main office:

VZ210, 2nd floor Von Zedlitz Building, Kelburn Parade

6. Course Administrator:

Rachel Scholes, Postgraduate administration Tel: 463 5600, Fax: 463 5604

rachel.scholes@vuw.ac.nz

7. Content:

The week by week schedule of topics that will be covered is as follows:

1. Introduction to X-bar theory
2. Complements and Adjuncts
3. Functional categories
4. Head-movement
5. Phrasal movement: *wh*-movement
6. Phrasal movement: Argument raising
7. Binding and reference
8. Expanded domains
9. The Antisymmetry approach

10. Minimalist directions

8. Objectives:

At the end of this course, students should have developed

- an understanding of the basic concepts of X-bar theory and how the theory is applied to the analysis of sentence data from English and other languages
- an understanding of how particular kinds of semantic relations can be represented in syntactic tree structures
- the ability to form conclusions based on the analysis of sentence data from the perspective of a theoretical model
- the ability to present in appropriate written form conclusions based on the analysis of sentence data
- the ability to understand and evaluate literature in syntax developing out of X-bar theory.

9. Expected workload:

In order to make satisfactory progress in this course you should expect to devote, on average, 15 hours a week to it. This includes attendance at classes, preparation for classes, background reading and preparation for assignments, and writing of assignments. Some students will find they need to do more than this, and students aiming for high grades will almost certainly need to do more.

10. Group work:

Not applicable.

11. Readings:

There is no textbook for this course, but the following are highly recommended:

- Carnie, Andrew. 2007. *Syntax: A Generative Introduction*. Second Edition. Oxford: Blackwell. [or First Edition (2002)].
- Cowper, Elizabeth A. 1992. *A Concise Introduction to Syntactic Theory*. Chicago & London: University of Chicago Press.
- Culicover, Peter. 1997. *Principles and Parameters: An Introduction to Syntactic Theory*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Haegeman, Liliane. 1994. *Introduction to Government and Binding Theory*. 2nd Edition. Oxford: Blackwell. [or First Edition (1991)]
- Hornstein, Norbert, Jairo Nunes and Kleantes K Grohmann. 2005. *Understanding Minimalism*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Ouhalla, Jamal. 1999. *Introducing Transformational Grammar: From Principles and Parameters to Minimalism*. 2nd Edition. London: Arnold.
- Radford, Andrew. 1997a. *Syntactic Theory and the Structure of English: A Minimalist Approach*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Radford, Andrew. 1997b. *Syntax: A Minimalist Introduction*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Radford, Andrew. 2004. *Minimalist Syntax: Exploring the Structure of English*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Roberts, Ian. 1997. *Comparative Syntax*, London: Arnold.
- Webelhuth, Gert, ed.. 1995. *Government and Binding Theory and the Minimalist Program*, Blackwell, Oxford and Cambridge, Mass.

Students will also be directed in classes to relevant reading material on particular topics.

Vicbooks has two locations - Student Union Building on Kelburn Campus and Rutherford House on Pipitea Campus (which stocks textbooks for Law and Commerce only). We distribute student notes (for Law (all stages) and Commerce from stage 2 upwards only) from the Pipitea shop and the student notes shop on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz

We can courier books to customers or they can be picked up from either shop the day after placing an order online.

We can be contacted by telephone
Kelburn 463 5515
Pipitea 4636160

Opening hours
8am - 6pm Mon - Fri (during termtime - we close at 5pm in the holidays)
10am - 1pm Saturday

12. Materials and equipment:

Not applicable.

13. Assessment requirements:

The required pieces of work for the course is set out below.

	Assignment	Date due	Percentage of total marks
	Assignment 1 (max 8 x A4 pages)	30 July	20%
	Assignment 2 (max 8 x A4 pages)	5 September	20%
	Assignment 3 (max 16 x A4 pages)	10 October	60%

The assessment is designed to assess how well you are progressively achieving the course objectives. Assignments 1 and 2 are designed especially to give you experience in the application of theoretical concepts to the analysis of data sourced from languages other than English. Assignment 3 provides you with the opportunity to develop a more sustained analysis of data pertaining to a particular topic in the syntax of a particular language and including relevant discussion of literature on the topic.

Submitting assignments and tasks

General guidelines

When preparing typed or word-processed documents:

- Set margins to at least 2.5 cm
- Set line spacing to single space for text
- Set font size of 12 point
- Include page numbers
- Include a title page which shows the course number and name, your name, the course lecturer, the title of the assignment, and the date the assignment is due
- Provide a word count at the end of the assignment
- If you have to draw tree structures or special symbols in by hand, check that this has been done legibly and consistently.

Hard copy submissions

- Staple pages together
- Avoid presenting assignments in bulky folders or sleeves unless necessary
- Avoid inserting individual pages in clearfile sleeves

The pieces of set work should be handed to your lecturer personally or put in the box outside the secretary's room, VZ 210, on the 2nd floor of the Von Zedlitz building. Please keep a back up copy of all work handed in.

14. Penalties:

Assignments handed in late with no extension will receive a penalty of one grade for every 24 hours of lateness (weekends counting as 24 hours for this purpose) and after one week will receive no grade, but will still be accepted for mandatory course requirements.

15. Responsibilities for practicum arrangements (practicum courses only):

Not applicable.

16. Mandatory Course Requirements (Terms):

Students should:

Participate in all classes, present material as agreed, and complete all in-course written work by the specified dates

Let the lecturer know IN ADVANCE if they are unable to participate in a particular class.

A satisfactory attempt at each of the pieces of in-term work is mandatory, each being handed in promptly.

The final date for handing in in-term work to count for this course is Friday 17 October at 5:00 pm.

17. Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

18. Communication of additional information:

Additional information or information on changes will be conveyed to students in class and on Blackboard.

General University policies and statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Academic Grievances
- Student and Staff Conduct
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support