

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LINGUISTICSPROGRAMME

LING 327 SYNTAX

TRIMESTER 1 2010

1 March to 4 July 2010

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 1 March 2010 to 4 June 2010

Mid-trimester break: 5 April to 18 April 2010

Study week: 7 June to 11 June 2010

Examination/Assessment period: 11 June to 4 July 2010

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

1. Course Coordinator:

VZ 303, Ext. 5616

Email: elizabeth.pearce@vuw.ac.nz

Office hour: see VZ 303 door notice

2. Staff: as above

3. Class times and rooms:

Lectures: Mon, Thurs, Fri: 9:00-9:50 in HU 317

Tutorial: Wed 4:10- 5:00 or Thurs 10:00-10:50 in KP22 104

The choice of the tutorial time will be determined in lecture classes in Week 1 and will be posted on Blackboard and on the Linguistics Noticeboard (see §4).

Tutorials commence in the second week (beginning 8 March). Do not miss your first tutorial.

The **tutorial programme** is an essential element of this course. Students will find they cannot acquire techniques of syntactic analysis without attending tutorials regularly.

4. Announcements:

Notices relating to the course will be posted on the Linguistics Notice Board next to VZ 309 on Floor 3 of the Von Zedlitz building.

5. LALS main office: VZ210, 2nd floor Von Zedlitz Building, Kelburn Parade

6. Course Administrator:

Vivien Trott, Undergraduate administration Tel: 463 5894, Fax: 463 5604
vivien.trott@vuw.ac.nz

Web contact: www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz

7. Aims:

The course aims to develop the ability of students to apply methods of analysis and description of primary language data using the current theoretical framework based in X-bar syntax.

Whilst the perspectives will be both theoretical and empirical, a very strong emphasis will be placed on methods of argumentation and problem solving. In accordance with this emphasis, in-class work and assessment will focus on practical exercises and problem solving.

8. Learning Objectives:

At the end of this course, students should be able to

- understand the basic concepts of X-bar theory and how the theory is applied to the analysis of sentence data,
- apply the X-bar model in the analysis of sentence data from English and other languages,
- understand the role of tree structures, and be able to apply them, in the modelling of semantic relations between items in sentences,
- form conclusions based on the analysis of sentence data from the perspective of a formal framework.

9. Course Content:

A schedule of classes is attached at the end of this course outline.

10. Course delivery.

See under 3, 9 and 18.

11. Expected work load:

You are expected to spend 200 hours on this course over the whole trimester, which means on average around 15 hours per week. There is a total of 44 class contact hours (lectures and tutorials) in the trimester. The remaining workload hours (an average of 12 hours per week) are needed for preparation for and revision after lectures (the latter to confirm your understanding of the lecture material), background reading and assignment preparation.

12. Texts:

Every student will need to bring a copy of the **Coursebook** (obtainable from the Student Notes Distribution Centre, Student Union Building; cost \$12 approx.) **to all classes.**

There is **no single text book** with content that corresponds directly to the content of this course. The following books are, however, the **recommended textbooks** for this course:

- Adger, David. 2003. *Core Syntax: A Minimalist Approach*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 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.
- Haegeman, Liliane. 1994. *Introduction to Government and Binding Theory*. 2nd Edition. Oxford: Blackwell. Or: First Edition (1991).
- Ouhalla, Jamal. 1999. *Introducing Transformational Grammar: From Principles and Parameters to Minimalism*. 2nd Edition. London: Arnold.

Detailed reading lists in the individual topic areas and other reading matter relating to particular topics are provided in the Coursebook. Other supplementary material supporting the content of the lectures may also be distributed in class. A large number of books and periodicals useful for this course have been placed on 3 day loan and closed reserve.

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of Vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from Vicbooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre 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. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

13. Materials and equipment: not applicable

14. Assessment requirements:

Assessment will be based on the items listed below:

	<u>Handed out¹</u>	<u>Due date</u>	<u>Contribution to final grade</u>
Assignment 1	1 March	15 March	10%
Assignment 2	15 March	19 April	25%
Assignment 3	19 April	10 May	25%
Assignment 4	10 May	4 June	40%

All the assignments, except for Assignment 4, must be handed in by **9am** on the day due. Assignment 4 must be handed in by **4pm** on the day it is due.

¹ Copies of assignment material will also be placed on the LING 327 Blackboard site.

Assignments should be handed in to the lecturer on the day the assignment is due or to the LALS Office (VZ 210). Please keep a back-up copy of your assignment.

Each Assignment includes one or more tasks in syntactic analysis based on data from English and/or other languages.

The maximum length for Assignment 1 is: 6 pages or 1,000 words; for Assignments 2 and 3: 12 pages or 2,000 words; for Assignment 4: 20 pages or 3,500 words. Diagrams/figures/tables are included in the page/word counts and the page count is understood as applying to A4 double spaced pages.

Reasonable accommodation is made with respect to assessment procedures for students with disabilities (see also General University Policies below).

N.B. Note that if no work is submitted for assessment before the last three weeks of teaching, there will be nothing on which to base an aegrotat consideration.

15. Penalties:

In line with the Linguistics Programme policy, assignments handed in after the due date will receive a considerably reduced grade unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other evidence of exceptional circumstances. If you require an extension for good reasons, ask the course coordinator ahead of the date for handing in the assignment. ONLY ASSIGNMENTS CARRYING A COVER-SHEET SIGNED BY THE COURSE COORDINATOR HAVE A VALID EXTENSION PERMITTED TO THEM. Such an extension may be given only up to the point at which the Assignments are handed back.

Assignments which are handed after the time and date on which they are due will be subject to a scale of penalties involving a reduction in the grade they are given, the severity of the grade reduction corresponding to the severity of the lateness. The details of the penalties will be set out on each Assignment.

You are strongly advised to begin work early on your assignment to be sure of getting access to the appropriate books and articles, to avoid last-minute rush, and to ensure that your work is not needlessly penalised. If your work is handed in late, it may also be returned to you late.

Plagiarism is not acceptable in assessed work, and will be penalized. The penalty will depend on the severity of the plagiarism (see General University Policies and Statutes at the end of this document).

If you encounter any problems in your work for this assignment, discuss these with the course coordinator well before the due date for the assignment.

16. Assessment and Course objectives

The **Assignments** will be asking students to demonstrate familiarity with basic concepts in syntax covered in the course and to demonstrate that they are able to apply to data from different languages the techniques of analysis which will be taught and practised in the lectures and tutorials up to the time of the "due dates" for these pieces of work.

17. Mandatory Course Requirements (Terms)

In addition to obtaining at least a C grade overall, students must meet the following mandatory requirements in order to pass this course:

You must make a satisfactory attempt at the five set pieces of in-term work listed under **13** above. "Satisfactory" means that where a set piece of work has not reached a C standard, it must nevertheless reflect the fact that the task has been taken seriously and that a reasonable amount of effort has been devoted to it. In order for an assignment to meet the Mandatory Course Requirements, it must be handed in no later than 11 June 2010. Note also that in addition to the penalties indicated in **12**, in order for an assignment to receive a mark, even if an extension is given, it must be handed in by the time that marked assignments are returned in class, normally not later than 10/14 days after the official due date.

18. Attendance

Tutorials form an essential part of all Linguistics courses and, crucially so, in LING 327 in which material covered in lectures and tutorials builds sequentially on material covered in preceding classes. It is expected that students will prepare for and attend **all** of their scheduled tutorials.

19. Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

20. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

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* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic/Publications.aspx

TIMETABLE OF CLASSES

LING 327 Syntax 2010

Lecture Schedule : Mon, Thurs, Fri 9:00-9:50 in HU 317

	LECTURES	ASSESSMENT
Mar	1 Review: Sentence meaning and organization	
	4 Review: Sentence meaning and organization	
	5 Subordinate clauses	
	8 Subordinate clauses	
	11 Subordinate clauses	
	12 Subordinate clauses	
	15 Noun phrases	Assignment 1
	18 Noun phrases	
	19 Verb phrases	
	22 Lexical categories	
	25 Functional categories	
	26 Functional categories	
	29 Functional categories	
Apr	1 Head-movement	
MID-COURSE BREAK		
	19 Head-movement	Assignment 2
	22 Phrasal movement	
	23 Phrasal movement	
	26 Argument roles	
	29 Argument positions	
	30 VP-internal structure	
May	3 VP-internal structure	
	6 VP-internal structure	
	7 Argument raising	
	10 Propositional logic	Assignment 3
	13 Quantification	
	14 Aspect	
	17 Quantifier syntax	
	20 Logical Form and questions	
	21 Typologies	
	24 Typologies	
	27 Binding theory	
	28 Binding theory	
	31 NO LECTURES	
Jun	3 NO LECTURES	
	4 NO LECTURES	
	4 End of 1/3 Teaching: 4 June	Assignment 4