TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME
LING 427 SYNTAX
30 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 1 July 2015
Teaching dates: 2 March to 5 June 2015
Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3–19 April 2015
Last assessment item due: 5 June 2015
Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am – 10.50am in CO228
Tutorials: Thursday 4.10pm – 5pm in MY806, or: Friday 2.10pm – 3pm in VZ103
Two research seminars: 1. During week beginning 9 March (TBA)
                                            2. During week beginning 20 April (TBA).

Names and contact details

Course coordinator: Dr Elizabeth Pearce
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                                         Office: VZ303
                                         Phone: 463 5616
                                         Office hours: see VZ 303 door notice

Course Administrator: Dayna Taramai
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                                         Office: VZ210
                                         Phone: 463 5255
                                         Office hours: 9am – 4.15pm, Monday – Friday

Communication of additional information

Notices relating to the course will be posted on Blackboard.

Prescription

In this course typological characteristics of sentence structure are studied and analysed within the perspective of a theoretical model and students are introduced to some current research work in syntax.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to

1. understand the basic concepts of X-bar theory and how the theory is applied to the analysis of sentence data,
2. apply the X-bar model in the analysis of sentence data from English and other languages,
3. understand the role of tree structures, and be able to apply them, in the modelling of semantic relations between items in sentences,
4. form conclusions based on the analysis of sentence data from the perspective of a formal framework.
5. set out the findings of an investigation into a topic in syntax in the format that is appropriate to a research paper in syntax.

Teaching format

The course delivery is through the lectures, tutorials and seminars as listed under Class times and locations. Tutorials commence in the second week (beginning 9 March). Do not miss your first tutorial.

Students are expected to contribute to discussions in tutorials and seminars.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. unless prevented through illness, etc., attend the two seminars and all the weekly tutorial sessions.
2. submit all assessment items by their final dates as specified with the individual assignments, subject to provisions for late submission of work.

Workload

You are expected to spend 300 hours on this course over the whole trimester, which means on average around 20 hours per week (Including the two weeks of the mid-trimester break). The class contact hours are on average 5 hours per week over weeks 1-11. You should allow a minimum of 3 hours per week for preparation for classes and revision after classes (the latter to confirm your understanding of the lecture material), background reading and assignment preparation. The remaining approximately 210 hours should be spent on preparation of the items for assessment as follows: 30 hours for the Report, 70 hours for the Review and 110 hours for the Research Project.

Assessment

	CLOs	Word count	Due date	Contribution to final grade
Report	1	1,500	27 March	15%
Review	1-4	2,500	4 May	30%
Research Project	1-5	4,500	5 June	55%

The Report is designed to help you to develop your understanding of the role of theory in the analysis of language data. The Review gives you the opportunity to examine the claims of analyses applied to a particular syntactic construction. The Research Project provides you with the opportunity to develop a more sustained analysis of data pertaining to a particular topic in the syntax of one or more languages and including relevant discussion of literature on the topic. The grading of the assessment tasks is in accordance with the degree to which the work presented fulfils these objectives.

Submission and return of work

Two copies of each assignment should be handed in to the lecturer by 4pm on day the assignment is due or to the LALS Office (VZ 210). Please keep a back-up copy of your assignment. You can expect that your work will be graded and returned to you in class by not more than two weeks after you submit it. Where more than one question is included on an assignment, specific marks will be assigned to the individual questions.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

In line with the Linguistics Programme policy, assignments handed in after the due date will receive a considerably reduced grade (see below) 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. Such an extension may be given only up to the point at which the Assignments are handed back.

Penalties

Assignments which are handed in 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. Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism

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.

Set texts

LING 327/427 Course Book available from vicbooks
vicbooks website: www.vicbooks.co.nz.

Recommended reading

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.(2002).

Culicover, Peter. 1997. Principles and Parameters: An Introduction to Syntactic Theory. Oxford: Oxford University 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.

Radford, Andrew. 2004. Minimalist Syntax: Exploring the Structure of English. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Roberts, Ian. 1997. Comparative Syntax, London: Arnold.

Sportiche, Dominique, Hilda Koopman and Edward Stabler. 2014. *An Introduction to Syntactic Analysis and Theory*. Hoboken: Wiley.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

> Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at
www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progess (including restrictions and non-engagement)

- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

TIMETABLE OF CLASSES
LING 427: Syntax 2015

Lecture Schedule: Mon, Wed, Fri

		LECTURES	ASSESSMENT DUE
Mar	2	Review: Sentence meaning and organization	
	4	Review: Sentence meaning and organization	
	6	Subordinate clauses	
	9	Subordinate clauses	
	11	Subordinate clauses	
	13	Subordinate clauses	
	16	Noun phrases	
	18	Noun phrases	
	20	Verb phrases	
	23	Lexical categories	
	25	Functional categories	
	27	Functional categories	**Report**
	30	Head-movement	
Apr	1	Head-movement	
		MID-COURSE BREAK	
	20	Head-movement	
	22	Phrasal movement	
	24	Phrasal movement	
	27	ANZAC DAY	
	29	Argument roles	
May	1	Argument positions	
	4	Argument raising	**Review**
	6	VP-internal structure	
	8	VP-internal structure	
	11	Propositional logic	
	13	Quantification	
	15	Aspect	
	18	Quantifier syntax	
	27	Logical form, questions and binding	
Jun	1	QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY	
	3	Typologies	
	5	Typologies	**Research Project**