

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME

LING 327 SYNTAX

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Last assessment item due: 14 October 2016

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lectures: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 4:10pm – 5pm in Kirk (KK) 202.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator

Dr Elizabeth Pearce

Office: Von Zedlitz (VZ) 303

Email: elizabeth.pearce@vuw.ac.nz

Phone: 463 5616

Office hours: By appointment



Course Administrator

Matthew Vink

Office: Von Zedlitz (VZ) 210

Email: Matthew.Vink@vuw.ac.nz

Phone: 463 5255

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 4:15pm



Communication of additional information

Notices relating to the course will be posted on Blackboard.

Prescription

In this course typological characteristics of sentence structures are studied and analysed within the perspective of a theoretical model.

Course content

A schedule of classes will be made available separately.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to

1. understand the basic concepts in the design and implementation of a current model in syntactic theory,
2. form conclusions based on the analysis of sentence data from the perspective of current formal theory,
3. access and read with understanding current publications in the academic literature on topics in syntax,
4. set out the findings of an investigation into a topic in syntax in the format that is appropriate to academic writing in syntax.

Teaching format

The three class hours per week will be conducted under a mixed lecture-seminar-workshop model. A proportion of class time will be spent on progressively working through the chapters of the set text.

Workload

You are expected to spend 200 hours on this course over the whole trimester, which means on average around 15 hours per week (including the two weeks of the mid-trimester break). 33 of the total number of hours are taken up with class attendance (there will be no scheduled classes in the final week of the trimester). You should allow a minimum of 5 hours per week (another 55 hours of the total) for preparation for classes and revision after classes (the latter to confirm your understanding of the lecture material) and background reading. The remaining approximately 100 hours should be spent on preparation of the items for assessment.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
Exercise 1 (4 pages or 750 words)	10	1,2	29 July
Exercise 2 (6 pages or 1,000 words)	15	1,2	19 August
Oral presentation (10 mins)	10	1-3	by 21 September
Report (8 pages or 1500 words)	25	1-3	16 September
Assignment (18 pages or 2500 words)	40	1 – 4	14 October

Diagrams/figures/tables are included in the page/word counts and the page count is understood as applying to A4 double spaced pages.

Except for the Oral presentation, all items of assessment must be handed in by **4pm** on the day due to the lecturer or to the LALS Office (VZ 210). Please keep a back-up copy of your assignment.

Each assessment item includes one or more tasks in syntactic analysis based on data from English and/or other languages. Students will be expected 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 that will be taught and practised in the lectures and tutorials up to the time of the "due dates" for these pieces of work.

The grading criteria accord with how well the work that is produced fulfils the instructions that are given with each assessment task.

Reasonable accommodation is made with respect to assessment procedures for students with disabilities (see also *Where to find more detailed information* 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. An aegrotat pass will normally be approved only when a candidate has completed at least 30% of the course assessment.

Submission and return of work

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. You can expect that your work will be graded and returned to you 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. The marking criteria accord with how well the work that is produced fulfils the instructions that are given with each assignment task.

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. 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.

Penalties

In line with school 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. Unless you have a valid extension granted for your assignment, the following penalties will apply:

	<i>Penalty</i>
By 4pm one working day following the due date	One grade (5%) less
By 4pm three working days following the due date	Two grades (10%) less
By 4pm five working days following the due date	Three grades (15%) less
For assignments handed in later than 4:00pm one week after the due date	No mark, but may still count towards the mandatory course requirements

Plagiarism is not acceptable in assessed work, and will be penalised. The penalty will depend on the severity of the plagiarism. For more information on plagiarism see the 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

Adger, David. 2003. *Core Syntax: A Minimalist Approach*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Recommended reading

Gelderen, Elly van. 2013. *Clause Structure*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

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

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

General recommended readings and readings on specific topics will be posted on Blackboard and distributed in class in accordance with the progression of the coverage of content in classes.

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.

Student feedback

Previous student feedback on LING 327/427 was based on a class format of 3 lecture hours and one tutorial per week. The present teaching of LING 327/427 follows a mixed lecture-seminar-workshop model over three hours per week.

What was most appreciated by students in previous feedback in 2015 was the use that was made in class of the set text, the Course Notes. In 2016, the set text, Adger (2003), is intended as providing both a firm foundation in the model that it treats and a point of reference for the consideration of material outside the immediate range of its coverage. Students in 2015 also appreciated having time spent on working through data (especially in tutorials). In 2016, the set text will be used during class time as a basis for working with applications of the syntactic model to data.

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
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (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
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- 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
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- 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