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 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 mode and students are introduced to some current research work in syntax.

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. identify a set of research questions on a topic in syntax,

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 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 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). 33 of the total number of hours are consumed 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 and background reading. The remaining approximately 200 hours should be spent on preparation of the items for assessment.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
Report (1,000 words)	15	1,3	1 August
Review (1,500 words)	20	1 - 3	19 August
Research project oral presentation (20 mins)	15%	1 - 4	23 September
Research project (4500 words)	50	1 – 5	14 October

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 Oral Presentation gives you the opportunity to present and to receive feedback on your preliminary work on the

Research Project. 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. 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.

Submission and return of work

The Research project oral presentation is to be accompanied by a handout setting out data discussed in the presentation on the date the presentation is given. One hard copy of each of the remaining items of assessment should be handed in to the lecturer by 4pm on the day the assignment is due or to the LALS Office (VZ 210). Please keep a back-up copy of your assignments. You can expect that your work will be graded and returned to you by not more than two weeks after you submit it.

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:

	Penalty
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 also 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 427/327 was based on a class format of 3 lecture hours and one tutorial per week. The present teaching of LING 427/327 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-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
- 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