ARTS2692

Syntax

Term 2, 2022

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Mengistu Amberber	m.amberber@unsw.edu.au	TBA	MB241	

School Contact Information

School of Humanities & Languages

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Tel: 02 9348 0406

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Acknowledgement of Country

UNSW Arts, Design and Architecture Kensington and Paddington campuses are built on Aboriginal Lands. We pay our respects to the Bidjigal and Gadigal peoples who are the Custodians of these lands. We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the First Australians, whose lands, winds and waters we all now share, and pay respect to their unique values, and their continuing and enduring cultures which deepen and enrich the life of our nation and communities.

Image courtesy of the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous UNSW's Indigenous strategy

Course Details

Units of Credit 6

Summary of the Course

This course focuses on syntax – traditionally defined as the study of the grammatical relation between words within the sentence. The course approaches the study of syntax from the perspective of generative linguistics. It explores the methodological foundations of the generative linguistics framework with particular reference to the place of syntax in the study of the human language faculty. The course investigates a number of key theoretical constructs that attempt to account for both universal and language-specific syntactic phenomena. You will have the opportunity to analyse data from English and a wide range of different languages.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the conceptual and empirical foundations of generative syntax.
2. Apply basic techniques of syntactic analysis.
3. Analyse syntactic data and argue the merits of the analysis.
4. Construct models of syntactic knowledge to investigate and account for data from English and a wide range of different languages.

Teaching Strategies

The teaching strategies involve lectures and tutorials. The tutorials are designed to foster individual problem solving skills as well as engagement in collaborative teamwork.

Assessment

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Course Learning Outcomes Assessed
1. Homework Problem Sets	30%	Not Applicable	2, 4
2. In-class Test	30%	12/07/2022 09:00 AM	1, 4
3. Final Exam	40%	Formal Exam Period	1, 2, 3

Assessment 1: Homework Problem Sets

Short exercises to be completed weekly and submitted online.

In-class general oral and written feedback is provided.

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Assessment 2: In-class Test

Due date: 12/07/2022 09:00 AM

60 minute test covering the content of lectures and tutorials.

General and individual written feedback is provided.

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 3: Final Exam

Due date: Formal Exam Period

2 hr exam covering all the major topics of the course.

This is the final assessment for attendance purposes.

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Attendance of tutorials is mandatory in this course. Attendance is taken at the tutorials. Unexcused absence from more than 20% of tutorials will result in the award of fail grade. In tutorials, you will actively engage with core course content, enabling you to attain CLO 1 and CLO 3.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 30 May - 3 June	Lecture	Introduction, Parts of Speech.
	Tutorial	Exercises on Introduction, Parts of Speech. Please note that further details and information including the reading list for each week and instruction for tutorial tasks, class/online activities and expectation will be available on Moodle. Lecture/tutorial topics and assessment schedule are subject to change. You must consult Moodle for regular updates.
Week 2: 6 June - 10 June	Lecture	Constituency, Structural Relations.
	Tutorial	Exercises on Constituency, Structural Relations.
Week 3: 13 June - 17 June	Lecture	Binding Theory, X-bar Theory (I).
	Tutorial	Exercises on Binding Theory, X-bar Theory (I)
Week 4: 20 June - 24 June	Lecture	X-bar Theory (II), Extending X-bar Theory
	Tutorial	Exercises on X-bar Theory (II), Extending X-bar Theory.
Week 5: 27 June - 1 July	Lecture	Constraining X-bar Theory, Functional Categories (I)
	Tutorial	Exercises on Constraining X-bar Theory, Functional Categories (I)
Week 6: 4 July - 8 July	Module	Flexibility Week. No classes.
Week 7: 11 July - 15 July	Lecture	Functional Categories (II), Head Movement
	Tutorial	Exercises on Functional Categories (II), Head

	Movement	
	Assessment	In-class Test
Week 8: 18 July - 22 July	Lecture	DP Movement, WH Movement (I)
	Tutorial	Exercises on DP Movement, WH Movement (I)
Week 9: 25 July - 29 July	Lecture	WH Movement (II), Locality Constraints (I)
	Tutorial	Exercises on WH Movement (II), Locality Constraints (I)
Week 10: 1 August - 5 August	Lecture	Locality Constraints (II), A Unified Theory of Movement.
	Tutorial	Exercises on Locality Constraints (II), A Unified Theory of Movement.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

Required textbooks

Carnie, A. 2021. *Syntax: A Generative Introduction*. 4th Edition. Wiley-Blackwell.

Carnie, A. 2021. *The Syntax Workbook: A Companion to Carnie's Syntax*. 2nd Edtion. Wiley-Blackwell.

Recommended Resources

Books:

Knowledge of Language: Its Nature, Origin & Use (1986)

The Minimalist Program (1995)

Chomsky's Universal Grammar : an Introduction

Introducing Transformational Grammar (1994)

Transformational Grammar: A First Course (1988)

The Language Instinct (1994)

Lectures on Contemporary Syntactic Theories (1985)

An extensive list of online resources is provided in Moodle. You must consult Moodle regularly for updates.

Course Evaluation and Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them.

Feedback is gathered from students using myExperience. It is encouraged students complete their surveys by accessing the personalised web link via the Moodle course site.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices

The [UNSW Academic Skills support](#) offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library has [the ELISE tool](#) available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study. Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided.)

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines

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