

Grammar and Morphology

Technical specs:

Time: T/Th., 11AM-12:30 PM

Place: TBA

Office Hours: T/Th 2-3 PM (or by appointment)

Office: Hammond Hall 132E

Email: suwon.yoon@uta.edu

Faculty profile: <https://www.uta.edu/mentis/public/#profile/profile/view/id/12977>

TA: Nathaniel Eversole, Daniel Amy

Email: nathaniel.eversole@mavs.uta.edu

daniel.amy@mavs.uta.edu

Course description

This course introduces the fundamental goals and techniques of current syntactic theory and the empirical facts it is based on. It also has the goal of putting you in a position to pursue more advanced study of the structure of human languages and to provide a foundation for your own research. After reviewing the basic concepts of modern grammatical theory, the course moves on to the question of how one should choose a theory, construct an argument, and expand and constrain the theory.

Student Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, students will gain basic understanding of how to make coherent argumentation and empirical justification for theoretical claims, as well as overall understanding of theoretical concepts and tools in Syntax.

Required textbook: (available at the Campus Bookstore)

Grammar as Science. 2010. Richard K. Larson. MIT Press.

Course Schedule:

	Content	Reading	Notes
Week 1: Jan. 14, 16	What Is Linguistics? What Is Syntax About?	Unit 1 (Larson 2010) Unit 2	
Week 2: Jan. 21, 23	Introducing Phrase Structure Rules Grammars	Unit 3 Unit 4	
Week 3: Jan. 28, 30	Working with Grammars Comparing Rules and Theories	Unit 5 Unit 6	Assignment 1 (due Feb 11)
Week 4: Feb. 4, 6	Constituency and Constituency Tests Trees and Tree Relations	Unit 7 Unit 8	
Week 5: Feb. 11, 13	Determining Category Revising, Refining, and Reconsidering	Unit 9 Unit 10	Assignment 2 (due Feb 25)
Week 6: Feb. 18, 20	Constructing Arguments I Constructing Arguments II	Unit 11 Unit 12	
Week 7: Feb. 25, 27	Introducing the Lexicon Features, Heads, and Phrases	Unit 13 Unit 14	Assignment 3 (due Mar 25)
Week 8: Mar. 4, 6	Verbal Complements and Adjuncts Distinguishing Complements and Adjuncts	Unit 15 Unit 16	
Week 9	Spring Break	--	
Week 10: Mar. 18, 20	Attaching Complements Attaching Adjuncts	Unit 17 Unit 18	Assignment 4 (due Apr 1)
Week 11: Mar. 25, 27	Complement Sentences I Complement Sentences II	Unit 19 Unit 20	
Week 12: Apr. 1, 3	Invisible Lexical Items NP Structure	Unit 21 Unit 22	Assignment 5 (due Apr 15)

Week 13: Apr. 8,10	X-Bar Theory Interrogatives and Movement	Unit 23 Unit 24	
Week 14: Apr. 15,17	More on Wh-Movement Constraints on Movement I	Unit 25 Unit 26	
Week 15: Apr. 22, 24	Constraints on Movement II Parametric Variation	Unit 27 Unit 28	
Week 16: Apr. 29	Review		Final exam: May 6, 11am

"As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. –S. Yoon."

Requirements:

The requirements for the course will include textbook reading, 5 problem sets, and a final exam. Homework assignments must be your own work, though discussion of problem sets, readings and lectures with your fellow students is encouraged.

- **Attendance and Participation (20%)**
On-time attendance, preparation for class, and active participation in discussion are required. More than one (unexcused) absence will negatively affect your grade.
- **Assignments (50%)**
The assignments for the course will consist of problems in grammatical analysis, with data that challenges or extends the basic assumptions that are covered in class. The assignments are designed to familiarize you with the descriptive or formal aspects of linguistic analysis. The solution to the problems will be open-ended, so your work will be evaluated based on empirical justification for claims, strength of argumentation, and form and clarity. The problem sets will be somewhat challenging. You are strongly encouraged to collaborate with your classmates, and/or consult with me on all of these assignments, but you should submit your own writing. *Assignments must be typed and handed in at class.*
- **Final exam (30%)**

GRADING

The final grade will be an average of all grades received on the following requirements:

- Attendance (20%)
- 5 Assignments (50%)
- Final exam (30%)

Librarian to Contact: Jody Bailey (jbailey@uta.edu)

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Electronic devices: Please turn off and keep off all pagers, electronic games, MP3 and CD players, and cell-phones. If you are using a lap-top, please use it only for course related matters—failure to do so will negatively affect your participation grade.

Late submission of assignments: Turn in all assignments on time. Late assignments will be accepted but with a grade penalty of up to two grade points (late assignments will not be accepted for credit once a new assignment is handed out). Assignments submitted late are unlikely to be returned to you in a timely manner, and they will not receive the same amount of feedback as an assignment handed in on time.

OTHER POLICIES

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships for more information.

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Student Support Services: The University of Texas at Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. These resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals to resources for any reason, students may contact the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107 or visit www.uta.edu/resources for more information.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this

account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, [which is located at XXX](#). When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.