

### Formal Syntax (Syntax 2)

**Technical specs:**

Time: Tue/Thu., 2:00-3:20 PM

Place: Preston Hall 300

Office Hours: Mon 2-3 PM (or by appointment)

Office: Hammond Hall 132E

Email: suwon.yoon@uta.edu

TA: Daniel Amy

Email: daniel.amy@mavs.uta.edu

Office: Hammond Hall 121

Office Hours: Tue 3:30-4:30PM

Wed 2:30-3:30PM

Faculty profile: <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/suwon-yoon>

**Course description**

This course is a continuation of Linguistics 3340. It expands our investigation of the fundamental goals and techniques of current syntactic theory and the empirical facts it is based on. It also has the goal of introducing the interface issues between syntactic and semantic phenomena. This course will have a strong cross-linguistic aspect to it; after reviewing the basic tools of current syntactic theory, the course moves on to the various core topics concerning the structure (and meaning) in English and also in a wide variety of languages.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

On successful completion of the course, students will learn and evaluate basic theoretical concepts and tools in Formal Syntax. Students will analyze natural languages and practice how to make coherent argumentation and empirical justification for syntactic claims, gaining overall understanding of the theoretical issues in Syntax and its application.

**Required textbook:**

There is NO required textbook for this course. You can continue to refer to the textbook from 3340 (Grammar & Morphology) below for relevant chapters.

Carnie, A. (2016). Syntax: A generative introduction. Third edition. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.

→ Lecture notes and other supplemental materials will be provided during the class or on the course website at Blackboard Learn.

**Course Schedule:**

	Content	Reading	Notes
Week 1: Aug. 29, 31	Review of major concepts (from 3340) I. categories & constituency II. structural ambiguity	Carnie Chapter 2-3.	
Week 2: Sept. 5, 7	I. Review of X-bar theory II. theta-roles (two theories)	Carnie Chapter 5	
Week 3: Sept. 12, 14	Aktionsarten		
Week 4: Sept. 19, 21	I. binding theory II. Semantic issues	Carnie Chapter 4	
Week 5: Sept. 26, 28	raising & control	Carnie Chapter 10	
Week 6: Oct. 3, 5	anaphora/binding	TBA	
Week 7: Oct. 10, 12	wh-movement	Carnie Chapter 11	
Week 8:			

Oct. 17, 19			
Week 9 Oct. 24, 26	I. relative clauses; A-bar movement II. Semantic issues	TBA	
Week 10: Oct.31,Nov.2			
Week 11: Nov. 7, 9	I. covert-movement II. Semantic issues: quantifiers	TBA	
Week 12: Nov. 14, 16			
Week 13: Nov. 21	<i>Thanksgiving</i>		
Week 14: Nov. 28, 30	I. comparatives II. Semantic issues	TBA	
Week 15: Dec. 5	Review		
Week 16: Dec. 12, 14	(exam week: no exam) final assignment		

*"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."*

#### Additional Dates of Note:

**Census Date:** Monday, Sept. 11 (last day to add or swap classes)

**Last Date to Drop:** Wednesday, Nov. 1

#### Course requirements and Grading:

The requirements for the course will include required reading, and homeworks (problem sets). **Late homework will NOT be accepted** without documented medical or family emergency. You must notify me if either of these events occurs. Grading policy will be given on the first day of class.

- **Attendance (10%)**

I have established following attendance policy: students are expected to come to class on time and must **behave in a professional manner** during class. **More than three unexcused absence** will automatically bump **your grade to one lower level**. Only formal support for the reasons of absence will be accepted.

- **Preparation and participation in class (20%)**

Preparation for class (reading), and active participation in classroom discussion are required.

- **Assignments (70%)**

The assignments for the course will consist of problems in syntactic 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. **Late assignment will NOT be accepted. Assignments must be typed and handed in at class.**

## COURSE POLICIES

- 1) Students are responsible for **checking the course Blackboard** regularly for the update.
- 2) **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.

**Librarian to Contact:** Jody Bailey ([jbailey@uta.edu](mailto:jbailey@uta.edu))

## 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. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Disability Accommodations:** UT 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)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. 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 disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a **letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting: **The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).*

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).*

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses 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 in their courses by 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. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

**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>.

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are 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 via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** for semester-long courses, 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. 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 individuals with disabilities.

**Student Support Services:** UT 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. Resources include [tutoring](#), [major-based learning centers](#), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](#), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](#). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.