

LING 3340: Syntax 1

Spring 2019

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Section Information: LING 3340-001

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Monday, Wednesday 1:00PM - 2:20PM, Life Sciences (LS) 101

Description of Course Content: This course is an in-depth introduction to Syntactic theory and analysis. Over the course of the semester, we will develop tools for analyzing syntactic structures (in English, as well as some other languages); learn how to investigate syntax as an empirical science; develop strong problem-solving skill for syntax but applicable to all areas of linguistics more generally.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students who successfully complete this class should be able to do the following:

- Demonstrate an ability to analyze syntactic constituent structure.
- Use a specialized set of formal tools for analyzing syntactic structure.
- Demonstrate an ability to make generalizations.
- Demonstrate an ability to make hypotheses that make predictions.
- Demonstrate an ability to use evidence to argue for specific hypotheses and/or adjudicate among competing hypotheses (i.e. to reason syntactically).

Textbook and Readings

The required textbook for this course is:

Carnie, Andrew. (2013). *Syntax: A Generative Introduction*. **Third Edition**. Wiley-Blackwell.

This text is **required** for the course, and your success in this course likely will depend in part keeping up with the readings (specific reading assignments enumerated below). This textbook, however, is not a supplement for the course. Attendance and review of class handouts are equally important.

In addition to the textbook, most lectures in class will be accompanied by a **handout**. Class handouts will be posted in *Blackboard* (usually, before or immediately after the class which they are used for). You should use these to help you follow along with the lecture and discussion in class, as well as to review material before you begin assignments. Handouts are NOT a supplement for actually attending class. (In fact, they will most likely make no sense unless you are actually in class participating in the discussion.)

Descriptions of major requirements, assignments and examinations:

8 Homework Assignments (7.5% each, 60% total). Homework assignments are the most important component of this class, not only for developing a deeper grasp of the content but also in terms of your overall grade. Plan to devote a fair amount of time to these assignments and make sure that what you submit is your best work. Assignments will typically be handed out on a **Wednesday**, due the following **Wednesday** in class, and returned to you by the following **Monday or Wednesday**, when we will usually discuss them as a class. (See the projected course schedule below for a complete list of assignment due dates.)

NOTE: Homework assignments will range from fairly straightforward problems to more challenging ones. For the more challenging problems, there may not always be one correct answer. What is important, however, is that you arrive at a plausible solution and present your analysis in logical, clear, and concise prose. **Your solutions to the homework assignments must be typed.**

Midterm Assignment (10%). This will be an take home assignment. It will modeled after your typical assignments, but will be more intensive and rigorous than your typical assignment. (Basically, consider it as roughly equivalent to two (2) assignments – and a bit more challenging. Give yourself plenty of time.)

Final Assignment (10%). This will be a take home assignment. It will modeled after your typical assignments, but will be more intensive and rigorous than your typical assignment. (Basically, consider it as roughly equivalent to two assignments – and a bit more challenging. Give yourself plenty of time.)

Attendance Quizzes (4% each, 20% total). There will be approximately five (5) unannounced quizzes in class. These quizzes will be given for the purposes of (i) checking in on your basic comprehension of course materials; and (ii) to provide a check on your attendance. Quizzes will take no more than 20-30 minutes of class time.

Grading:

All assignments (regular assignments, midterm and final assignments, as well as attendance quizzes) will receive a score between 1-5 (0 for assignments not handed in). A **rubric** explaining how points are earned will be provided separately. This rubric applies to the midterm and final as well, those these might be scored as an average of two separate parts each worth 5 points total. Quizzes also earn a score of 1-5 (0 for missed quizzes), but points earned will be based on satisfactory answers to 5 separate quizz question.

Final Grade: Your final grade will be based on an average of all assignments (scored between 1-5). In terms of letter grades:

Final Grade	Weighted Average
A	4.50 – 5.00
B	3.50 – 4.49
C	2.50 – 3.49
D	1.50 – 2.49
F	0.00 – 1.49

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and to seek guidance from available sources (including the TA and the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels. **In order to determine your grade on your own, at any point of the semester, you should be able to use the following guide to calculate your final grade based on the weighted percentages:**

- To calculate weighted values, multiply value by weight.
- To calculate weighted average, add the four weighted values together.

Grading category	Value	Weight	Weighted Value	(Max)
Average Homework Grade		$\times 0.6$ (60%) =		(3.00)
Midterm Assignment Grade		$\times 0.1$ (10%) =		(0.50)
Final Assignment Grade		$\times 0.1$ (10%) =		(0.50)
Average Quiz Grade		$\times 0.2$ (20%) =		(1.00)
Weighted Average \rightarrow				(5.00)

Course Schedule:

IMPORTANT NOTE: The schedule of assignments, midterm, and final assignment set forth below should be considered fixed. However, the schedule of specific topics and readings are subject to change. Changes to the reading schedule will be announced in class and you will also be notified of any changes by email.

Week 1 (1/14 & 1/16) / Class Introduction; Hypothesis Formation; and Syntactic Argumentation

Reading: Carnie, Chapter , pp. 3-18; pp. 29-33 (complete by end of Week 2)

Week 2 (1/23) / Syntactic Argumentation (cont.); Parts of Speech

Reading: Carnie, Chapter 2 pp. 43-62 (complete by end of Week 3)

Assignment 1: Handed out Wednesday 1/23; DUE Wednesday 1/30 in class.

Week 3 (1/28 & 1/30) / Parts of Speech (cont); Subcategories; Constituent Structure

Reading: Carnie, Chapter 3, pp. 71-107 (complete by end of Week 5)

Assignment 2: Handed out Wednesday 1/30; DUE Wednesday 2/6 in class.

Week 4 (2/4 & 2/6) / Constituent Structure (continued)

Reading: Continue reading Carnie, Chapter 3

Week 5 (2/11 & 2/13) / Constituent Structure (continued)

Reading: Continue reading Carnie, Chapter 3

Assignment 3: Handed out Wednesday 2/13; DUE Wednesday 2/20 in class.

Week 6 (2/18 & 2/20) / Structural Relations

Reading: Carnie, Chapter 4, pp. 117-137 (complete by end of Week 7) Assignment 4: Handout out Wednesday 2/20, due Wednesday 2/27 in class.

Week 7 (2/25 & 2/27 / Structural Relations (cont.); Binding

Reading: Carnie, Chapter 5, 147-157 (completed by end of Spring Break)

Assignment 5: Handed out Wednesday 2/27; DUE Wednesday 3/6 in class.

Week 8 (3/4 & 3/6) /

X-Bar Theory

Reading: Carnie, Chapter 6, pp. 165-200 (completed by beginning of Week 10)

Week 9 (3/11 & 3/13) – Spring Break

Week 10 (3/18 & 3/20) / X-Bar Theory (cont.)

Reading: Carnie, Chapter 6 (complete); Carnie Chapter 7, pp. 207-222 (complete by end of Week 11)

MIDTERM: Handed out Wednesday 3/20; DUE Wednesday 3/27 in class.

Week 11 (3/25 & 3/27) / Auxiliaries and Functional Categories

Reading: Carnie, Chapter 9, 248-281 (complete by beginning of Week 13)

No assignment this week.

Week 12 (4/1 & 4/3) / Auxiliaries and Functional Categories (cont.)

Reading: Continue reading Carnie, Chapter 9.

Assignment 6: Handed out Wednesday 4/3; DUE Wednesday 4/10 in class.

Week 13 (4/8 & 4/10) / Head Movement

Reading: Carnie, Chapter 10, pp. 289-313 (completed by end of Week 14)

Assignment 7: Handout out on Wednesday 4/10, DUE Wednesday 4/17 in class.

Week 14 (4/15 & 4/17) / Head Movement (continued)

Reading: Continue reading Carnie, Chapter 10.

Assignment 8: Handout out on Wednesday 4/17, DUE Wednesday 4/25 in class.

Week 15 (4/22 & 4/25) / DP Movement

Reading: Files 7.4; 7.5

Week 16 (4/29 & 5/1) / DP Movement (cont.)

Reading: Files 7.4; 7.5

Final Assignment: Handed out Wednesday 5/1, DUE Wednesday 5/7

Other important dates:

- 1/21 – Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.
 - 1/30 – Census Date
 - 3/11-3-16 – Spring Vacation
 - 3/29 – Last day to drop
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Class Policies:

If you do the following, you should do well in this class:

- Attend class.
- Turn in your homework assignments on time.
- Do the assignment carefully and well (a rubric is forthcoming).
- Come to office hours for individualized help on things that you don't understand, or to talk about things that you are curious about but which we cannot discuss in class.
- Be engaged: Ask questions in class, turn off your cell-phone, read the textbook, take notes, and review the lecture notes.

Cell-Phone Policy: Cell-phones should be out of view. Seeing you tapping away at your phone is a distraction to me, which – as a result (and as research shows) – is also a distraction to your classmates. If you have business that requires you to be on your cell-phone, please quietly leave the classroom to tend to your business.

Late Assignments: Late assignment (up to one week late) may be accepted for partial credit. Assignments turned in late will also typically not be returned to you quickly or receive the usual amount of detailed feedback that assignments turned in on time will receive. Midterm and Final assignments will not be accepted late.

Attendance: As already mentioned, we will not formally take attendance in every class. However, attendance is required and will be checked through the unannounced quizzes.

These quizzes cannot be made up due to an absence.

Clemency: If you turn in all 8 assignments, and complete the midterm and final assignments on time, then you may be forgiven for (i) missing one unannounced quizz (e.g. if you were not in class); and (ii) have your lowest graded assignment dropped from consideration of your overall grade. **NOTE:** The midterm and the final assignment are not part of this clemency agreement.

University 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://web.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 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.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) 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.*

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 or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or 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 Arlingtons 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 universitys 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 students 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, which are located to the right or the left. Just follow one of these sets of stairs all the way to the ground floor and exit the building. 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, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers free tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

The English Writing Center (411LIBR): The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60- minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Our hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information on all our programs and services. The Library's 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>