

LING 3340: Grammar & Morphology

Spring 2009

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00 – 3:20 PM

Trimble Hall 215

<http://ling.uta.edu/~josh/>

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office hours: W 3:00-5:00 PM

Who climbs the grammar-tree, distinctly knows

Where noun, and verb, and participle grows...

(A quotation – ripped out of context – from John Dryden)

Prerequisite: LING 3311 (Introduction to Linguistic Science: Descriptive Linguistics), or permission of advisor.

Required Texts:

J. Albert Bickford, *Tools for analyzing the world's languages: Morphology and syntax* (1998), ISBN-10: 155671047X

William R. Merrifield et al, *Laboratory manual for morphology and syntax*, seventh edition (2003), ISBN-10: 1556711492

Additional Reading from:

Beatrice Santorini & Anthony Kroch, *The syntax of natural language: An online introduction using the Trees program* (2007-), <http://www.ling.upenn.edu/~beatrice/syntax-textbook/>

Course Description: This course is a survey of the varieties of grammatical constructions found in language. It provides “an introduction to morphological and syntactic analysis, at the upper undergraduate level, which covers both general characteristics of language and specific theoretical formulations and does so through rich exposure to diverse data from the whole world” (Bickford: vii).

Course Objectives: The objective of LING 3340 is to give students tools to enable them to analyze the grammar of a language by distinguishing between morphological and syntactic phenomena and explicating their interaction with each other. Particular attention will be paid to (1) the differences between derivational and inflectional morphology and (2) syntactic constituent analysis.

Student Learning Objectives: By the time students complete this course, they should be able to:

- Correctly use linguistic terminology relating to syntactic and morphological analysis.
- Identify and categorize morphemes, in English and in glossed or translated language data.
- Analyze constituency and make arguments for the constituents identified.
- Construct phrase structure trees of English sentences and of glossed or translated language data.
- Analyze unfamiliar language data in order to describe structure and function.

Course Requirements:

1. HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS 50%
 - There will be about 10 homework assignments. The specific content of each assignment will be announced in class; due dates are noted in the schedule.
 - Homework assignments will be collected at the beginning of lecture on the day they are due. **Students should bring a photocopy or second printout of their homework, as answers will be discussed immediately.**
 - Under VERY FEW CIRCUMSTANCES will any assignments be accepted late without penalty. If you know you will be gone the day an assignment is due, make arrangements to turn it in ahead of time. Late assignments will only be accepted up until a week past the due date and will be penalized one letter grade per class day late.
2. TAKE-HOME MID-TERM EXAMINATION..... 20%
 - Details about this examination will be discussed in class. Collaboration among students is prohibited, and each student's exam must represent his or her own work.
 - Late mid-term exams will only be accepted up until a week past the due date and will be penalized one letter grade per class day late.
3. TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAMINATION 20%
 - Details about this examination will be discussed in class. Collaboration among students is prohibited, and each student's exam must represent his or her own work.
 - Late final exams will only be accepted up until 2 days before final grades are due and will be penalized one-half letter grade per day late.
4. CLASS PARTICIPATION 10%
 - The class participation grade is based in part on attendance and in part on participation in class discussion. You will not be penalized for being a naturally reticent person.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend every scheduled class. In addition to lecture and in-class discussions, a significant portion of class time will be devoted to at-the-board practice of skills learned in the readings and lectures. (Two absences will be excused without penalty. As a courtesy, please notify one of the instructors about classes you plan to miss.)

There is no "extra-credit" or "make-up" work in this course.

Classroom Policies

The following policies have been instituted to ensure an optimal learning experience for all students.

- Please arrive on time. If you arrive after class has begun, please enter as unobtrusively as possible.
- Please plan to stay for the entire class meeting. If you need to leave early, please sit near the door and exit as unobtrusively as possible.
- Please prepare for each class meeting by completing all writing / reading assignments beforehand.
- Please come to class prepared to engage your mind as fully as possible. To this end, I respectfully insist that you:
 - leave your cell phone off at all times;
 - use a laptop computer only for taking course notes – no surfing the net, IM-ing, etc.;
 - limit conversation to class-related topics; and
 - do your best not to fall asleep.
- Please feel free to engage in classroom discussions. In doing so, keep your comments relevant and respectful to me, your colleagues, and the learning process.

A Few Other Matters

Please communicate with the instructors primarily by email. My cell phone number is provided for the following limited circumstances: 1) You have made an appointment with me but the office door is locked or I am not there; 2) You have made an appointment with me but find at the last minute that you cannot come or will be significantly late; 3) You find at the last minute that you will not be able to make it to class **and** homework is due or an exam is taking place that day **and** you will have no access to email to let me know by 1:30pm of that day.

Please do come see one of the instructors if you are having trouble or simply wish to discuss what you are learning. Feel free to ask for an appointment if our office hours are not convenient for you. That said, remember to check the class website for any handouts you may need.

If you must miss class on the day an assignment is due, either drop it off early during our office hours, leave it in the Linguistics & TESOL office (HH 403) and send an email to say you have done so, or else email me the assignment by the due date.

Important Academic and Administrative Policies

Final Review Week: A period of 5 class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions has been designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final exams. 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 course 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 exam during Final Review Week.

Note: Per this policy, I will refrain from assigning homework or quizzes during the final week of class. I will not, however, use the week to review the semester; rather, I will continue to present new material. As a student in this course, you are responsible for setting aside time to prepare for all examinations, including the final.

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation (Public Law 93112, The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended). With the passage of new federal legislation entitled the "Americans with Disabilities Act" (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

All members of the UT Arlington faculty are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodation" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility rests with informing the instructor at the beginning of the semester of a disability that might require accommodation and in providing documentation through designated administrative channels; for more information, contact the Office of Students with Disabilities (University Hall 102: 817-272-3364 or <http://www.uta.edu/disability/>). Per Department of Linguistics and TESOL policy, "unofficial" or "informal" requests for accommodations (i.e., those not recorded by the Office of Students with Disabilities) cannot be honored.

If you have a disability that might influence your work in this course, you must inform me before **Tuesday, January 27, 2009**.

Academic Dishonesty: At UT Arlington, academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. Students involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

According the UT System *Regents' Rules and Regulations*, "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22).

While the Department of Linguistics and TESOL hopes to foster a sense of community in which students can enhance their educational experience by conferring with each other about the lectures, readings, and assignments, all work submitted must be the product of each student's own effort. Students are expected to know and honor the standards of academic integrity followed by American universities; ignorance of these standards is not an excuse for committing an act of academic dishonesty (including plagiarism). If you have questions, please speak with your instructor or your academic advisor.

Student Support Services Available: The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. If you require assistance academically, personally, or socially, you should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 or <http://www.uta.edu/uac/studentsuccess-home/> for information and referrals.

Enrollment and Withdrawal from this Course: Students are responsible for making all decisions regarding their enrollment status in this course. Should a student decide to drop this class, s/he must either (1) withdraw him-/herself via MyMav or (2) complete an "add/drop" form and file it in the Linguistics and TESOL department office. Neither the instructors nor the administrative staff of the Department of Linguistics and TESOL will independently undertake any enrollment actions (add, drop, change sections, etc.)

If you cease participation in this course with the intent of not being assigned a regular grade at the end of the semester (i.e., a grade of A, B, C, D, or F), then you **must** officially drop the course. Your failure to drop the class is not a reasonable excuse for receiving a grade other than A, B, C, D or F.

Auditors: All students attending LING classes must be officially enrolled in those courses. Exception: Students who have already fulfilled the majority of their degree requirements and would like to sit in on a comparable course to prepare for their

comprehensive / diagnostic examination may do so (with the permission of the professor). Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the department chair.

Gifts: The Department of Linguistics and TESOL has a "no gift" policy: instructors may not accept gifts of any kind from students, including meals, food, or flowers. All linguistics instructors have been instructed to refuse gifts. Students can avoid placing instructors in an awkward position by not offering them any gifts. Students wishing to honor their professors may make a contribution to the LING-TESOL Scholarship Fund (<http://ling.uta.edu/donate/>).

Projected Course Schedule

The following table presents the anticipated schedule for course topics, reading, homework assignments, and exams. Please complete the reading for each lecture *prior* to arriving at class. I reserve the right to alter the course schedule at any time; that said, I will do my best to announce any changes in advance.

Wk		Tuesday	Thursday
1	January	20: Course overview; introduction of text; data analysis	22: Grammatical Terms; Morphemes & Hypotheses; (HW 1 assigned) >> <i>Bickford ch. 2-3</i>
2		Ice & General Sadness	29: Intro to Morphology >> <i>Bickford ch. 4</i>
3	February	3: Intro to Syntax >> <i>Bickford ch. 5</i> >> HW 1 due	5: Intro to Syntax; (HW 2 assigned) [[Special Guest: 30 min.]]
4		10: Phrase Structure Rules & the Lexicon >> <i>Bickford ch. 6</i>	12: Embedding & NP Structure; (HW 3 assigned) >> <i>Bickford ch. 7</i> >> HW 2 due
5		17: Verb Valence >> <i>Bickford ch. 8</i>	19: Verb Valence [[Special Guest: 30 min.]]
6		24: Obliques >> <i>Bickford ch. 9</i>	26: Obliques; (HW 4 assigned) >> <i>Bickford ch. 9</i> >> HW 3 due [[Special Guest: 30 min.]]
7	March	3: Introducing X-Bar >> <i>Santorini & Kroch (announced in class)</i>	5: UTASCILT 16 – attend conference during regular class time (and more if possible!) >> HW 4 due (bring to conference)
8		10: Even More X-Bar >> <i>Bickford ch. 10</i>	12: Inflectional Morphology >> MID-TERM EXAM DUE
		17: Spring Break	19: Spring Break
9		24: Derivational Morphology; (HW 5 assigned) >> <i>Bickford ch. 11</i>	26: Suppletion & Morphophonemics >> <i>Bickford ch. 12</i>
10		31: Non-Linear Affixation; (HW 6 assigned) >> <i>Bickford ch. 13</i> >> HW 5 due	2: Nonactive Complements >> <i>Bickford ch. 14</i>
11	April	7: Var. Order of Constituents; (HW 7 assigned) >> <i>Bickford ch. 15</i> >> HW 6 due	9: Case & Agreement >> <i>Bickford ch. 19</i>
12		14: Passive & Voice (HW 8 assigned) >> <i>Bickford ch. 21</i>	16: Passive & Voice >> HW 7 due

13		21: Embedded Clauses (HW 9 assigned) >> <i>Bickford ch. 22</i>	23: Embedded Clauses >> HW 8 due
14		28: Relative Clauses >> <i>Bickford ch. 23</i>	30: Tips for Writing & Presenting >> HW 9 due
15	May	5: Tips for Writing & Presenting	7: Review
*		12: Final Exam Period (2:00-4:30)	

Last day to Drop: Friday, April 3