Department of Linguistics
Spring 2010

LNG 332: INTERMEDIATE SYNTAX

Dr. Dimitrios Ntelitheos

Time: Sunday/Tuesday 5:00pm – 6:15pm
Venue: MQ, 71/116
Date Range: Feb 07, 2010 - June 03, 2010
Office hours: Sunday/Tuesday 11 am-1pm (Also available by appointment)
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Language of instruction: English
Prerequisites: LNG320

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course builds on the material introduced in Introduction to Syntax (LNG 320). It provides a more sophisticated treatment of modern approaches to the study of syntax in its narrow sense as well as the interface between syntax and other linguistic components such as phonology, morphology, semantics and information structure. Students will discuss "displacement" i.e. the pronunciation of syntactic strings in other than their base positions. This includes processes such as head movement, DP movement, wh-movement, scope and covert movement. Additional advanced topics that are discussed include raising and control structures, and expanded verb phrases. Students are expected to conduct their own research, using syntactic data from a language of their choice, and produce a qualifying paper.

2. TEACHING METHODS

Instruction will be student-centered. Students are required to read the assigned material and write and/or answer specific questions relevant to the reading before they come to class. They are expected to participate in class discussions. Discussion is essential to the success of the course. Your participation is the only indicator that you read carefully and critically. Every effort will be made to ensure that the atmosphere in the class is welcoming and encouraging so that everybody can share their ideas and be respected. It is important that you pay attention and are engaged in class by asking questions and expressing your point of view. The students will use readings and exercises to be provided by the instructor but are encouraged to consult additional sources.

3. COURSE OBJECTIVES AND COURSE OUTCOMES

Objectives *What the teacher will do*	Outcomes *How the student will benefit*
Present advanced theoretical constructs in	Students should have a knowledge and

syntactic theory	understanding of some core concepts in syntax (category, constituency, agreement).
Introduce and discuss in detail the notion of displacement (i.e. movement) as manifested in head movement, phrasal movement and wh-movement configurations	They should have gained a familiarity with technical concepts in theoretical syntax (such as c-command, movement, structural representations) and an ability to produce an analysis of simple syntactic data using the theory.
Provide the students with data sets from English and other languages and illustrate how coherent syntactic analyses can be derived from the available data and how the most prominent of these analyses can be adopted	They should have also developed an ability to follow syntactic arguments made within a coherent theoretical system; to appreciate how evidence motivates the steps of an argument; and to demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between theory and data.

4. STUDENTS RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Students must attend class regularly.
2. Students must do the readings before they come to class (ways to test this may be used)
3. Students are expected to actively participate to class discussions (this would count in the evaluation).
4. Students who have missed class for any reason are responsible for finding out what information has been missed and are encouraged to talk to the instructor and/or classmates.
5. Missed quizzes may be made up only in cases of emergency (family or medical; a note from a doctor is to be provided). Tests will not be made up otherwise.

5. GRADING SCHEME

1. Mid-term Exam   20%
2. Final Exam   30%
3. Quizzes   10%   One quiz every 8 weeks (overall: 2 quizzes)
4. Home assignments   20%   One assignment every 4 weeks (overall 4 assignments)
5. Short term paper   15%   Type and topic to be discussed with instructor.
6. Class participation   5%

6. TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1	Introduction to the course
Weeks 2 & 3	Head-to-Head Movement
Weeks 4 & 5	DP Movement
Weeks 6 & 7	Wh-Movement
Week 8	A Unified Theory of Movement
Weeks 9 & 10	Expanded VPs
Weeks 11 & 12	Raising and Control
Weeks 13 & 14	Advanced Topics in Binding Theory
Week 15 & 16	Alternatives

7. Quiz and Assignment Schedule

Week

2	Assignment 1
4	Quiz 1
6	Assignment 2
8	Mid-term exam
10	Assignment 3
12	Quiz 2
14	Assignment 4
15	Assignment 5 (Optional)

8. Teaching Materials

1. Carnie, A. 2002. *Syntax. A Generative Introduction.* Blackwell Publishing. (Primary Textbook)
2. Tallerman, Maggie. 2005. *Understanding Syntax.* Oxford University Press.
3. Radford, A. (1988) *Transformational Grammar.* Cambridge Textbooks in Linguistics
4. Sag, I. and T. Wasow and E. Bender (2003) *Syntactic Theory: A Formal Introduction, Second Edition.* CSLI Publications

Web Resources:
Santorini, Beatrice, and Anthony Kroch. 2007-. The syntax of natural language: An online introduction using the Trees program.
http://www.ling.upenn.edu/~beatrice/syntax-textbook

Carnie, A. 2009. Syntax. A Generative Introduction, Online Resources.
http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/carnie/online.asp

Treeform (Tree Drawing Software)
http://www.ece.ubc.ca/~donaldd/treeform.htm

Syntax Tree Editor (Tree Drawing Software)
http://www.ductape.net/~eppie/tree/download.shtml