



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

LING 401
Syntax II
Winter 2023
Tuesdays and Thursdays 14:00-15:15 – in person SA 147

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dennis Ryan Storoshenko

OFFICE HOURS: 11:30am – 12:30pm Tuesdays CHD 509 (or by appointment)

E-MAIL: dstorosh@ucalgary.ca (responses by next weekday)

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 403-220-6119

Zoom PERSONAL ROOM: 256 785 4540 (email for appointment)

DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to Minimalism as an approach to syntactic analysis with an emphasis on feature-driven derivation, and the analysis of empty categories through the comparison of Control, Raising, and ECM. Concepts of movement and agreement introduced in Linguistics 301 are formalized as part of a larger system.

OBJECTIVES

- Train students in the treatment of syntactic trees as representing a stepwise derivation, and not simply a static object
- Introduce the concept that cross-linguistic variation in syntax can be captured through distinction in formal features
- Give experience reading primary literature in syntax
- Develop writing skills and introduce the basic structure and rhetorical style of formal linguistic writing

OUTCOMES

- Students will be able to translate between tree structures and a written/oral stepwise description of a derivation
- Students will be able to diagnose various types of non-finite embedded clause structures (ECM, Raising, Control)
- Students will produce a short (~2000 word) paper on a topic of their choice

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Adger, David. 2003. *Core syntax: A Minimalist approach*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Additional papers will be uploaded to D2L.

Some course assessments will include an audio component. Students should be familiar with the process of capturing a voice recording and uploading a file to the D2L Dropbox. Students will also be required to submit written components of all assignments as a single .pdf file. If tree diagrams are drawn by hand, they must be incorporated into a single document (e.g. photos imported into a Word document saved as .pdf). Camera or scanner is required.



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RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

No other additional recommended texts. Students will need to find additional resources for their papers, so access to library resources will likely be required.

COURSE NOTES

Classes will be held in person twice a week beginning Jan 10, excluding reading break (Feb 20-24). Midterms will have two components, one timed during class time but done remotely, and one untimed take-home accessible for 24 hours. To expedite discussions, some reviews of core concepts from Linguistics 301 and discussions of problem set solutions will be pre-recorded and delivered asynchronously. Lectures and class discussions will be streamed to zoom and recorded if the classroom has the required built-in equipment; quality and reliability of this will depend on the installed classroom equipment.

All written work is to be submitted as a .pdf, saved from the editing software of the student's choice. **WORD DOCUMENT FORMATS (e.g .doc(x)) OR OTHER TEXT FORMATS (e.g. .rtf, .pages) ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR SUBMISSION; use the "Save As..." or "Export..." functions and select .pdf as the file type. LaTeX generated .pdf files are accepted and encouraged.** For the final paper, all tree diagrams must be generated electronically (relevant tools will be discussed in class). For the problem sets, tree diagrams may be hand drawn, photographed, and embedded into a document before conversion to .pdf. No unembedded image files will be accepted; all submissions for the eight key written deliverables (5 problem sets, 1 paper proposal, 1 paper outline, 1 paper) must each be in a single organized .pdf file.

Each problem set will give specific guidelines on the expected answers (e.g. "one or two sentences", "A paragraph", "bullet point stepwise derivation"). Details on other materials relating to the paper will be given in class. A detailed grading rubric for the final paper will be provided, though note now that a portion of this will cover basic grammar/spelling/formatting. Students worried about their ability to write fluently should also be aware of writing support resources at the Student Success Centre:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>

Midterm exams will have two components. The "synchronous" component will have each student receive by timed email a single sentence for which to draw a tree at the beginning of the class time on the relevant midterm date. Students will need to hand-draw the tree and submit either a scan or image of the final tree. Along with this, students must submit an audio (with or without video) narration of the steps involved in deriving the tree structure. These will be due at the end of the synchronous class time on the specified Midterm dates. Model narrations will be made available on D2L as part of the standard outside-of-class extra practice materials. Steps will also be regularly covered through in-class examples. All students will receive sentences of equivalent complexity, but there will be minor differences (e.g. "Rose met the young doctor" vs "The old mechanic met Stan") to discourage academic misconduct. This is not "record your thought process for 75 minutes", this is "here's one problem to solve, solve it, and then verbalize your solution in a recording that should take no more than five to ten minutes to record". The expected duration of this task is 30min, students will have 75min to complete it. There will follow a 24-hour untimed take-home midterm with written questions opened at 15:30 on the relevant Thursday, due 15:30 the following Friday. The instructor will be checking email throughout the synchronous portion of the midterms, monitoring for clarification questions. If the questions are relevant to all students, responses will be posted to D2L in the News section. During the take-home midterms, email will be monitored from 15:30-22:00 on the day they go out, and again from 09:00 until the submission time the next day. Answers to questions will be posted to a D2L news post, collecting a compendium of questions and answers (students will be familiar with this format, as the same feedback mechanism is used when questions about assignments come in during office hours/via email). If a student is unable to complete either portion of either midterm during the scheduled time, they should contact the instructor by email as soon as possible (ideally in advance, if there is a known conflict, e.g. childcare commitment, medical appointment, etc...), and alternate timing or assessments can be



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arranged.

Problem sets may be submitted late, with an up to 10% penalty, for five days after the due date. Problem sets cannot be submitted after the solutions have been discussed (typically five days after the due date). Some problem sets may include optional additional questions and/or sections where random factors (e.g. final digits of student number) will determine which portions of the assignment which students are responsible for. Where this is implemented, questions will always be multi-part and include some element of free choice (e.g. "We have reviewed four different tests for this particular syntactic structure. Everyone must apply two of the four tests to this structure: one determined by the last two digits of your student number (00-24 must use test A, 25-49 must use test B, 50-74 must use test C, 75-99 must use test D) and one additional test of your choice")

Course evaluations will be online via D2L.

ASSESSMENT

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

Problem Sets 25% (5 x 5%)

(Due 23:59 Jan 26, Feb 9, Mar 9, Mar 23, Apr 11; Distribution and submission by D2L Dropbox)

Synchronous Midterm Portion 10% (2 x 5%)

(During lecture time Feb 16, Mar 30)

Asynchronous Midterm Portion 30% (2 x 15%)

(Distributed 15:30 on Feb 16, Mar 30; each due 24 hours later on Feb 17, Mar 31)

Paper proposal 5%

(Due 23:59 Feb 28)

Paper outline 5%

(Due 23:59 Apr 4)

Final Paper 25%

(Due 23:59 Apr 14)

NOTE THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM FOR THIS COURSE

GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100-97 A = 93-96 A- = 92-88 B+ = 87-83 B = 82-78 B- = 77-73 C+ = 72-68 C = 67-63

C- = 62-58 D+ = 57-53 D = 52-50 F = 49%

Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number (.01 to .49) rounds down, (.50 to .99) rounds up.

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behaviour which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>



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Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

Zoom Best Practices

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms, including Discord. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions, you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. **If you would like to update your name in zoom (which uses the name in Student Centre) and/or D2L, please refer to this page:**

https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it?id=kb_article&sys_id=11662f2a1beb5c981e2b8734ec4bcb4a

The instructor may record Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations> .

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.



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THRIVE PRIORITY SUPPORT NETWORK

By default, courses using the D2L gradebook are part of the Thrive Priority Support Network. For students in their second and later years, this means their grades in progress are monitored for significant deviations from their prior performance. This automated monitoring may trigger an email from the Student Success Centre. These messages are an offer of support, part of the Campus Mental Health Strategy. More information about Thrive can be found here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/thrive>

OFFICE 365 APPLICATIONS

Students may need access to common applications (e.g., MS Word, PowerPoint) that can produce file formats compatible with MS Office (i.e., .DOC, .DOCX, .PPTX). University of Calgary students can download Office 365 at no additional cost here, by following the link to Information Technologies: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/guide-services-students>

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Tower.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops and tablets are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.