

LIN 6520: Syntax II
Spring 2015, T 5-6th, R 4th
FLG 0275

Instructor

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Course description and goals

This course builds on LIN 4500/6501 to go deeper into several core areas of generative/transformational syntax, giving students the tools to pursue study and research of current work in Minimalism and related domains.

This semester, the course will focus on an advanced understanding of clause structure and projection, A'-movement and its constraints, and covert movement and LF. It's possible we may change things up to include something on argument structure and case instead of covert movement.

Goals this semester include working on our theory-building and argumentation skills, becoming familiar with the overall ethos and direct of the Minimalist Program, engaging the primary literature in theoretical syntax, and conducting original syntactic research.

Prerequisites

LIN 4500 or LIN 6501, Syntax I.

Readings

All readings will be made available on our course website. Our primary text will be:

Hornstein, Norbert, Jairo Nuñez, & Kleanthes Grohmann. 2005. *Understanding Minimalism: An introduction to Minimalist syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

We will also use an online textbook:

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>.

As well as other readings (see the schedule below). Some readings are required and others are 'recommended.' For graduate students, they are strongly recommended.

Other course material

Everything will be on Canvas, including handouts and assignments. It's my first semester using Canvas, so let me know if I'm doing things wrong.

Requirements/Grading

	LIN 6520	LIN 4930
▪ problem sets	20%	35%
▪ homeworks	30%	30%
▪ squib 1	25%	---
▪ squib 2	25%	35%

PROBLEM SETS. These are exercises to be done at home to help you think through the concepts from class. We will discuss them in class. They will not be graded in detail, but will be assessed for completeness and whether answers are more or less on track. Answer keys for them will be provided. You may work on them alone or together with up to two other students in the class, however, you must write up your solutions entirely on your own and note the other students whom you worked with, in accordance with the University of Florida Honor Code (the policy is available at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php>). Problems sets that are nearly identical (same phrases, sentences, etc.) will be treated as possible plagiarism cases.

HOMEWORKS will be more involved and require detailed work and write-up. Only two will be assigned during the semester. Again, you may discuss them with classmates, but your work must be your own. Outside sources can also be consulted, but must be properly cited. Your answers should have a similar format to the squibs (see below).

All work must be neatly typed and printed out or legibly written. They are to be handed in at the end of the class on which they are due. **Late work will not be accepted** unless there is a documented emergency and prior arrangements have been made. Completing problem sets while the answers are being discussed is unacceptable

SQUIBS are short papers that contain original research and focus on one narrow problem or topic. This might be an empirical problem or a theoretical one. They can even present an incomplete analysis or a problem without a solution, so long as the discussion is relevant for syntactic theory and the problem posed clearly laid out. Squibs should have either new data or a new analysis of data that has implications for some theoretical question. We will discuss the process as the course develops and examples are available for you on Canvas. You can also check out the journal *Linguistic Inquiry*, which has a regular section for squibs.

Format: Squibs should be about 12 pages double spaced including your footnotes, but not references, with 1" margins. You can use the MIT squib stylesheet to answer other formatting questions: <http://www.mitpressjournals.org/page/sub/ling>.

Your second squib may build on your first, but it doesn't have to. You can also write a final paper instead of a second squib if you like.

Both squibs and homeworks will be graded on clarity, organization, use and understanding of syntactic theory, coherence of your argumentation, originality, and overall content.

Be on the lookout early on for good topics. You should discuss your topics with me before proceeding.

Attendance and participation

Attendance and participation are not a part of the grade. However, you are unlikely to do well in the course without attending, taking good notes, and being a part of the discussion. Lecture notes will not be made generally available. If you miss a class, you should review the reading, get notes from a classmate, and if necessary come discuss the material in office hours.

Grading

The course grading scale is the one recommended by CLAS. Other info on UF grading policies can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>. Please check the course website regularly to ensure your grades have been recorded accurately and let the instructor know right away if you believe a mistake has been made.

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
90 or above	87-89	84-86	80-83	77-79	74-76	70-73	67-69	64-66	60-63	57-59	56 or below

Academic Honesty

Cheating, plagiarism, and other acts of academic misconduct have no place here and won't be tolerated. Committing such an act will result in a report to the Dean of Students and an E for the course. If you have any question about what does and do not count as an act of academic misconduct, please consult the University Honor Code <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php> and talk with your instructor.

Other Issues

I would like to hear from anyone who has a disability which may require some modification in seating, testing, or other class requirements. Please contact me in any way that is comfortable for you so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>.

Schedule. Below is a tentative schedule of topics to be covered and the corresponding readings. HNG refers to Hornstein, Nunes, and Grohmann. Readings should be completed before coming to class on the dates on which the reading is listed. Assignments should be completed before class and brought to class on the dates they are listed as due.

DAY	TOPIC	READING	OPTIONAL READING
<i>Advanced Clause Structure</i>			
Jan. 5	syllabus, GB and Minimalism	HNG 1, Boeckx 2006	HNG 2
7	NO CLASS		
12	Minimalist case study: Bare phrase structure	HNG 6	Hornstein & Nunes 2008
14	comparative syntax, feature checking	Santorini & Kroch 2007 ch. 6, Adger 2003 ch. 2	Pollock 1989
19	reading journal articles		
21	practice problems 1, Agree	Haegeman & Lohndal 2010	Preminger 2013
26	verb raising	Koeneman & Zeijlstra 2014	
28	Predicate-Internal Subject Hypothesis	HNG 3, McCloskey 1997	Kratzer 1996
Feb. 2	floating quantifiers	Bobaljik 2003	Sportiche 1988, Fitzpatrick 2006

4	practice exercise 2, double objects	Adger 2003 ch. 4, HNG 3.3, Bruening 2010	Santorini & Kroch 2007 ch. 7
9	Case and EPP	HNG 4	Alexiadou & Anagnostopoulou 1998
11	the left periphery	Gundel 1998, Lambrecht 1994, Rizzi 1997	Haegeman & Gueron 1999, Abels 2012
16	practice problems 3		

<i>A' movement and Constraints on Movement</i>			
Feb. 18	A versus A' movement HW 1 due	Büring 12.1-12.2, 12.4-12.5 (BT and mvt), Santorini & Kroch 2007 ch. 11 (section 2 on constraints on wh-movement)	Bhatt 2004, Lasnik & Stowell 1991, Postal 1993 (crossover), Culicover 2001 (parasitic gaps), Sportiche 2006 (reconstruction)
23	A' diagnostics	Polinsky & Potsdam 2015 (sect. 2 & 3)	
25	relative clauses	Andrews 2007, Santorini & Kroch 2007 ch. 11 (RC section)	
26	relative clauses	Bhatt 2002	
Mar. 1	Spring Break		
3	Spring Break		
8	practice problems 4, constraints on movement, Subjacency	Adger 2003:ch. 10, Santorini & Kroch 2007 ch. 11 (sections 2 & 3), Szabolcsi & den Dikken 2002	Pesetsky 1987, Szabolcsi 2002
10	cyclic movement, CED squib 1 due		
15	practice problems 5, phases, PIC	Radford 2004 ch. 10, Citko 2014	
17	phases	Hiraiwa 2010	
22	phases	van Urk & Richards 2013, Boskovic 2014 (sections 1, 2, 4)	Rackowski and Richards 2005
24	sluicing	Merchant 2006, Vicente 2016	
29	sluicing	Toosarvandani 2008	Gribanova 2013
31	wh-in-situ	Poole 2011:188-200, 219-222	Cheng 2003
Apr 5	wh-in-situ	Bruening and Tran 2006	Aoun & Li 1993, Soltan 2010, Pesetsky 1987
7	practice problems 6 HW 2 due		
12	QR	Poole 2011:201-216	Büring ch. 4.1-4.4
14	syntactic evidence for QR	Huang 1995	
19	wrap up of QR, practice problems 7		
Apr. 26	squib 2 due		