

English Syntax

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Course Descriptions:

This course is designed to get students doing syntactic analyses of English constructions. The main goal of this class is two fold:

- To help students enhance their understanding of the structure of English in a systematic and scientific way
- To help students develop keen eyes on the structure of simple as well as complex English sentences.

The class focuses primarily on the descriptive facts of English syntax, presented in a way that encourages students to develop keen insights into the English data. It then proceeds with the basic, theoretical concepts of generative grammar from which students can develop abilities to think, reason, and analyze English sentences from linguistic points of view.

Main Textbook:

- Kim, Jong-Bok, and Peter Sells. To appear. *English Syntax: An Introduction*. Stanford, CSLI Publications.

References:

- Baker, C.L. 1999. *English Syntax*. Cambridge: The MIT Press
- Aarts, Bas. 1997. *English Syntax and Argumentation*. Macmillan.
- Redford, A. 1997. *Syntactic Theory and the Structure of English*. Cambridge Univ., Press.

- Huddleston, Rodney, and Geoffrey K. Pullman. 2002. *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language*. Cambridge University Press.

Course Schedule:

Week	Dates	Chapters	Homework
1	Mar 2	Chap 1 Some basic properties of English	
2	Mar 6, 9	Chap 2 From words to phrases	Chap 1 Ex.
3	Mar 13, 16	Chap 3 Forms, functions, and roles	Chap 2 Ex.
4	Mar 20, 23	Chap 4 Head, complements, and modifier	Chap 3 Ex.
5	Mar 27, 30	Chap 5 Subjects and Complements	Chap 4 Ex.
6	Apr 3, 6	Chap 6 NP structure and agreement	Chap 5 Ex.
7	Apr 10, 13	Chap 7 Raising and Control verbs	Chap 6 Ex.
8	Apr 17, 20	Review	Chap 7 Ex.
9	Apr 24	Mid Term	
10	May 1, 4	Chap 8 Auxiliary constructions	
11	May 8, 11	Chap 9 Passive	Chap 8 Ex.
12	May 15, 18	Chap 10 Wh-questions	Chap 9 Ex.
13	May 22, 25	Chap 11 Relative clauses	Chap 10 Ex.
14	May 29, Jun 1	Chap 12 Special constructions	Chap 11 Ex.
15	June 5, 8	Review	Chap 12 Ex.
16	June 12	Final	

Evaluations: Mid Term 35 % and Final: 35 %, Class attendance and participation in class activities: 10%, Homework Assignments: 20%

Requirements and Notes:

- All the homework need to be handwritten and must be submitted on the designated date. No late submission is possible. (Please make no front cover for the homework to save paper!)
- Students are strongly encouraged not to miss any class. You are allowed to miss one class. Missing the second one needs to have an email notification to me. If missing more than 3 classes, no grades will be given.
- Email is the most accessible way to reach me. Feel free to write to me for questions.
- Asking questions either in the class or through email are strongly encouraged. Remember every question has its own value and more questions mean a better grade.

Course Quotation: “ We are told that talent creates its own opportunities. But it sometimes seems that intense desire creates not only its own opportunities, but its own talents. (Eric Hoffer)”