LING6010 – Introduction to syntax

Course Outline

Course Co-ordinator: Dr. Bill Palmer
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Consultation hours: TBA

Course Overview
Semester: Semester 1 - 2010
Unit Weighting: 10
Teaching Methods: Lecture

Brief Course Description

This course is an introduction to the principles of syntax and to the basic concepts underlying theories of grammar. We will look at the structure of phrases, clauses and sentences, and at the functional relationship between parts of phrases and clauses, such as subject and object. We will also briefly introduce several major competing theories of grammar. The course concentrates on the basic concepts and methods of syntactic analysis, and focuses on the practical analysis and description of a wide range of phenomena from a variety of languages.

Contact Hours

Lecture for 2 Hours per week for the full semester.

Callaghan Campus Timetable (on campus course)

Lecture: Tuesday 14:00 - 16:00 [W202]
Seminar: Tuesday 16:00 – 17.00 [W326]

Course text


In some weeks other core readings may apply – you will be advised if so. Further readings will be recommended during the semester for each topic.
Course Content

This course will introduce you to the study of syntax (the study of how words and phrases combine to form larger units, and how parts of sentences relate to each other), and to a lesser extent morphosyntax (how aspects of morphology (word structure) relate to syntax).

The course has two main objectives:

• to introduce you the main concepts and issues in syntax and morphosyntax; and
• to train you to carry out basic practical syntactic analysis.

It is an introduction to the basic concepts and methods of syntactic analysis and description and the foundation principles of grammatical theory. It concentrates on practical analysis and description of a wide range of phenomena from a variety of languages and their place in grammatical theory. Topics to be covered include:

1. word classes and phrasal categories;
2. the principles of constituent structure in two competing theoretical approaches;
3. word order and clause structure;
4. writing phrase structure grammar;
5. major clause types, including declarative, interrogative and imperative clauses and clauses with non-verbal predicates;
6. multi-clausal constructions, including complement clauses and relative clauses;
7. intermediate levels of structure, including basic X-bar syntax;
8. the principles of argument structure in two competing theoretical approaches;
9. grammatical functions such as subject and object, including the interaction of syntax and morphology;
10. semantic functions such as agent and patient, including the interaction of syntax and semantics.

Assessment Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Items</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 x Assignments (500 words each)</td>
<td>10% each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar presentation (Callaghan on campus) OR</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online posting &amp; discussion (weblearn)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay (3500 words)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity, honesty, and a respect for knowledge, truth and ethical practices are fundamental to the business of the University. These principles are at the core of all academic endeavour in teaching, learning and research. Dishonest practices contravene academic values, compromise the integrity of research and devalue the quality of learning. To preserve the quality of learning for the individual and others, the University may impose severe sanctions on activities that undermine academic integrity. There are two major categories of academic dishonesty:

Academic fraud is a form of academic dishonesty that involves making a false representation to gain an unjust advantage. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it can include:

a) falsification of data;

b) using a substitute person to undertake, in full or part, an examination or other assessment item;

c) reusing one’s own work, or part thereof, that has been submitted previously and counted towards another course (without permission);

d) making contact or colluding with another person, contrary to instructions, during an examination or other assessment item;

e) bringing material or device(s) into an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item; and

f) making use of computer software or other material and device(s) during an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item.

g) contract cheating or having another writer compete for tender to produce an essay or assignment and then submitting the work as one's own.

Plagiarism is the presentation of the thoughts or works of another as one's own. University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

a) copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;

b) using another person's ideas without due acknowledgment;

c) collusion or working with others without permission, and presenting the resulting work as though it were completed independently.

Turnitin is an electronic text matching system. During assessing any assessment item the University may:

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or
- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a text matching service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future checking).
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

RE-MARKS AND MODERATIONS

Students can access the University's policy at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html

MARKS AND GRADES RELEASED DURING TERM

All marks and grades released during term are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School.
SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING ASSESSMENT ITEMS

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations items must be submitted by the due date in the Course Outline unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension. Unapproved late submissions will be penalised in line with the University policy specified in Late Penalty (under student) at the link above.

Requests for Extensions of Time must be lodged no later than the due date of the item. This applies to students:

- applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or
- whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment.

Students must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, as outlined in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure at:

Note: different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.

Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- Special Consideration Requests must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.
- Rescheduling Exam requests must be received no later than 10 working days prior the first date of the examination period.

Late applications may not be accepted. Students who cannot meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak firstly to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness. If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au. As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester. For more information on confidentiality and documentation visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability.

CHANGING YOUR ENROLMENT

Students enrolled after the census dates listed in the link below are liable for the full cost of their student contribution or fees for that term.

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/fees/censusdates.html

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of term. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of term will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of term, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of term must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online go to myHub: https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au
STUDENT INFORMATION & CONTACTS

Various services are offered by the Student Support Unit:
www.newcastle.edu.au/service/studentsupport/

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia. Student Hubs are located at:

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<th>Campus</th>
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| Callaghan Campus    | Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Building  
|                     | Hunter Hub: Level 2, Student Services Centre |
| City Precinct       | City Hub & Information Common, University House |
| Central Coast Campus (Ourimbah) | Student Hub: Opposite the Main Cafeteria |

Port Macquarie students
contact your program officer or
EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au
Phone 4921 5000

Singapore students
contact your PSB Program Executive

OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION

Faculty Websites
www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/
www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/
www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/
www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/
www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/

Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards
www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000311.html

Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards

Rules Governing Professional Doctorate Awards
www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000580.html

Dean of Students Office
The Dean of Students and Deputy Dean of Students work to ensure that all students receive fair and equitable treatment at the University. In doing this they provide information and advice and help students resolve problems of an academic nature.
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/dean-of-students/
Phone:02 4921 5806
Fax: 02 4921 7151
Email: Dean-of-Students@newcastle.edu.au

University Complaints Managers Office
The University is committed to maintaining and enhancing fair, equitable and safe work practices and promoting positive relationships with its staff and students. There is a single system to deal with all types of complaints, ranging from minor administrative matters to more serious deeply held grievances concerning unfair, unjust or unreasonable behaviour.
http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/complaints/
Phone:02 4921 5806
Fax: 02 4921 7151
Email: Complaints@newcastle.edu.au

Campus Care
The Campus Care program has been set up as a central point of enquiry for information, advice and support in managing inappropriate, concerning or threatening behaviour.
Phone:02 4921 8600
Fax: 02 4921 7151
Email: campuscare@newcastle.edu.au

General enquiries
Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie
Phone: 02 4921 5000
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

Ourimbah
Phone: 02 4348 4030
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au
This course outline will not be altered after the second week of the term except under extenuating circumstances with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of the change.

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- End of CTS Entry ---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Online Tutorial Registration:

Students are required to enrol in the Lecture and a specific Tutorial time for this course via the Online Registration system. Refer - http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/regdates.html

NB: Registrations close at the end of week 2 of semester.

Studentmail and Blackboard: Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

This course uses Blackboard and studentmail to contact students, so you are advised to keep your email accounts within the quota to ensure you receive essential messages. To receive an expedited response to queries, post questions on the Blackboard discussion forum if there is one, or if emailing staff directly use the course code in the subject line of your email. Students are advised to check their studentmail and the course Blackboard site on a weekly basis.

Important Additional Information

Details about the following topics are available on your course Blackboard site (where relevant). Refer - www.blackboard.newcastle.edu.au/

- Written Assignment Presentation and Submission Details
- Online copy submission to Turnitin
- Penalties for Late Assignments
- Special Circumstances
- No Assignment Re-submission
- Re-marks & Moderations
- Return of Assignments
- Preferred Referencing Style
- Student Representatives
- Student Communication
- Essential Online Information for Students