

LING 120B
Syntax I
SPRING 2015

INSTRUCTOR:	Sabina Matyiku [sʌ'bina ,mʌ'tʰikʰu]	TA:	Jos Tellings [jɔs 'telɪŋs]
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OFFICE HOURS:	Mon. & Wed. 2pm-3pm & by appointment	OFFICE HOURS:	Mon. 9am-11am & by appointment
OFFICE:	3103F Campbell	OFFICE:	2209 Campbell
LECTURE:	Mon. & Wed. 12pm-1:50pm 2160 Bunche	SECTION 1A:	Thu. 1pm-1:50pm A28 Haines
		SECTION 1B:	Thu. 2pm-2:50pm A6 Haines
COURSE SITE:	https://ccle.ucla.edu/course/view/15S-LING120B-1		
MAILBOXES:	3125 Campbell (Linguistics Department Office, 335 Portola Plaza)		

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. This course is an introduction to syntactic theory. We will explore the questions asked in the field, the methodologies employed, and some of the main generalizations that have been drawn.
2. Additionally, we will hone our critical thinking skills by using the scientific method to study syntax. We will construct and revise theories as we expand the empirical landscape and we will learn how to choose between competing theories on the basis of predictions they make.

PREREQUISITE: Completed LING 20 with a grade of B- or higher.

READINGS

REQUIRED TEXT: Carnie, Andrew. (2013). *Syntax: A generative introduction*. 3rd Edition. West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell.

- There are significant changes between this edition and earlier editions and we will often refer to specific problems and page numbers in the new edition. Save yourself the trouble and get the third edition.
- Errata and glossary are available on the text's companion site: <http://www.wiley.com/go/carnie>. To avoid any unnecessary confusion, make note of them right away.
- For short-term emergencies, one copy of the text is on two-hour reserve at Powell Library.
- Also on two-hour reserve is a copy of the Syntax Workbook, a companion workbook that includes extra exercises and their answers.

ADDITIONAL READINGS:

Any other assigned readings will be posted online.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Problem sets (7)	45%	(Equally weighed, lowest grade dropped)
Quizzes	5%	
Midterm Exam	20%	
Final Exam OR Paper	30%	

COURSE COMPONENTS

LECTURES

- This is where key course material will be communicated. Attendance is essential if you plan to keep up. I encourage active participation from all members of the class during lectures.

DISCUSSION SECTIONS

- Sections will take care of three important components of the course: (1) discussion of problem sets, (2) clarification of any questions that may arise from class discussions or readings, and (3) collaborative solving of additional practice exercises that target the tools you need in order to successfully complete problem sets.

PROBLEM SETS

- Problem sets will normally be handed out in lecture on Monday.
- Problem sets will be due a week later, at the beginning of class on the following Monday. They are graded for both correctness and clarity.
- Electronic submissions can be uploaded to the class website. They should be uploaded in PDF form only. Submitting a scanned version of a handwritten problem set is acceptable, but please do not submit photographs of your work.
- Hard copy submissions can be handed to the TA at the beginning of class on the day it is due. Alternatively, they can be placed in the TA's mailbox before the due date. Problem sets handed in using this method must be time stamped by the office administrator.

QUIZZES

- There will be three short in-class quizzes (10-15 minute duration) conducted at the beginning of class on three instances. Their purpose is to provide you with practice solving problems quickly, which you will have to do on the exams. The scheduling of the quizzes will be announced in class. Make-up quizzes will only be possible with written documentation of illness or personal emergency that includes the relevant date.

EXAMS

- The midterm exam will take place during regular class time on Monday, May 4th.
- The final exam will take place on the officially assigned day of Monday, June 8th from 8am to 11am.

PAPER

- Instead of taking the final exam, students may choose to write a short research paper, with a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor. The paper will be due on Fri., June 12th.

COURSE POLICIES

CLASS COVERAGE

- For both the problem sets and the exams, students are responsible for all of the material covered in lectures and discussion sections, whether or not it appears in the readings, and all material in the assigned readings, whether or not it is discussed in class, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

LATENESS

- Problem sets should be submitted on time in order to ensure the quickest turnaround time. However, late problem sets will be accepted during the 48 hour period following the 12pm submission deadline, but not without penalty. Late submissions will be penalized with 10% off the grade per day, for a total possible penalty of 20% off. Beyond this 48 hour period, late problem sets will not be accepted.

COLLABORATION

- You are encouraged to discuss your problem sets with each other. However, you must write up the answers yourself, in your own words, and be able to explain them on an individual basis. You must also write the name(s) of the student(s) you discussed them with at the top of your problem set. Any incidents of suspected academic dishonesty (including copying someone else's work or allowing someone else to copy yours) will be reported to the Dean of Students, which may result in formal disciplinary proceedings, which may in turn result in suspension or dismissal. Read about Academic Integrity and Student Conduct at <http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Academic-Integrity> and <http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Student-Conduct> respectively.

COMMUNICATION

- Clarifications to problem sets and other time-sensitive information will be distributed by email using the CCLE system so be sure to have your current email address listed in the system and to check your email regularly.
- Please put 'LING 120B' in the subject line of any emails you send us.

DISABILITIES

- Students with longer-term or chronic conditions are strongly advised to register with the Office for Students with Disabilities.

DISRUPTIONS

- All cellphones or similar devices must be silenced in class and section. Texting or taking calls inside the classroom will not be tolerated.
- Your laptop or other electronic devices may only be open for the purposes of note-taking or viewing readings or lecture notes. Repeat violators may lose device privileges.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

The schedule might change as it depends on the progress of the class.

WEEK	DATE	CLASS TOPICS	READINGS FROM TEXT
1	Mon. Mar. 30	Introduction	Chapter 1
	Wed. Apr. 1	Parts of speech	Chapter 2
	Thu. Apr. 2	TA sections 1A & 1B	
2	Mon. Apr. 6	Rules and trees	§§3.0-3.2
	Wed. Apr. 8	Constituency	§§3.3-3.6
	Thu. Apr. 9	TA sections 1A & 1B	
3	Mon. Apr. 13	Constituency	
	Wed. Apr. 15	Structural relations & Binding Theory	§§4.0-4.4, §§5.0-5.2
	Thu. Apr. 16	TA sections 1A & 1B	
4	Mon. Apr. 20	Binding Theory	§§5.3-5.6
	Wed. Apr. 22	X-bar Theory	§§6.0-6.3
	Thu. Apr. 23	TA sections 1A & 1B	
5	Mon. Apr. 27	X-bar Theory	§§6.4-6.7
	Wed. Apr. 29	Extending X-bar Theory	Chapter 7
	Thu. Apr. 30	TA sections 1A & 1B	
6	Mon. May 4	Midterm Exam (in class)	
	Wed. May 6	Constraining X-bar: Theta Theory	Chapter 8
	Thu. May 7	TA sections 1A & 1B	
7	Mon. May 11	Auxiliaries	§§9.3-9.5
	Wed. May 13	Head-to-head Movement	§§10.0-10.1
	Thu. May 14	TA sections 1A & 1B	
8	Mon. May 18	Head-to-head Movement	§§10.2-10.3
	Wed. May 20	DP Movement	Chapter 11
	Thu. May 21	TA sections 1A & 1B	
9	Mon. May 25	NO CLASS (MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY)	
	Wed. May 27	Wh-movement	§§12.0-12.1, §§12.3-12.4
	Thu. May 28	TA sections 1A & 1B	
10	Mon. Jun. 1	Raising and Control	§§15.0-15.1
	Wed. Jun. 3	Raising and Control	§§15.2-15.5
	Thu. Jun. 4	TA sections 1A & 1B	
11	Mon. Jun. 8	Final Exam	