LING 509
Syntactic Theory III
Spring 2015, University of Washington
Instructor: Edith Aldridge

Syllabus

Instructor: Edith Aldridge
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Phone: (206)685-4845
Office hours: By appointment

Time:     MW 10:30-12:20
Location: THO 217

Web site:  https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/966650

Overview and objectives:
This course is the third in the graduate level introduction to Generative Grammar series. This course focuses on recent developments in Minimalist theory, in particular on argument licensing, the nature of features, and the morphological realization of case and agreement. Students will be expected to read and critique primary literature in the Minimalist Program. Students will also write a research paper in theoretical syntax and make two in-class presentations related to this paper. Another goal of this course is to help students continue to develop hypothesis setting and problem solving skills which are common to all subfields of linguistics.

Requirements: Successful completion of this course will depend on the following.

- Preparation and class participation: 10%
- Participation in Discussion Board: 10%
- Presentation 1: 15%
- Presentation 2: 15%
- Literature Review: 20%
- Final Paper: 30%

Preparation and class participation:
Students are expected to attend all class meetings, to have read the assigned readings, and to participate in class discussions.

Participation in Discussion Board:
Students are expected to make at least one entry on the Canvas discussion board before each class meeting. Posts are due one hour before class begins.
Presentation 1:
Students will find a syntax article and present the main points of this article to the class. It is recommended that students present one of the articles to be discussed in the literature review.

Literature Review:
Students will write a critical review of three or more syntax articles that can be incorporated into their final papers.

Presentation 2:
Students will present a summary of their final research paper to the class, focusing on their own proposals.

Final Paper:
Students will write an original research paper on a syntactic topic of interest to them within the framework of Generative Grammar. Work on both the literature review and the final paper must be exclusively your own, and you must give appropriate citations for any resources you consult, including online resources. You are required to include appropriate citations for any resources you consult. Please familiarize yourself with the following information concerning student conduct and academic honesty.


Similar information can be found at the following link by navigating to “What is academic misconduct?” on the side menu.

http://www.washington.edu/uaa/advising/at-the-uw/not-doing-well/

Course Schedule

Note: This schedule is subject to change as necessary.

3/30 Introduction

4/1 Inherent case

4/6 Structural case and EPP

4/8 Alternative view on structural case

4/13 **Distributed Morphology**

4/15 **Ergativity**

4/20 **Phases**

4/22 **Inheritance and Anti-agreement**

4/27 **PRESENTATION 1**

4/29 **Criterial positions**

5/1 **LITERATURE REVIEWS DUE**

5/4 **Tense and subject licensing**

5/6 **Person Case Constraint**

5/11 **Case and Extraction**
5/13  Movement and object licensing

5/18  Object Agreement

5/20  Differential Object Marking

5/25  MAKE-UP CLASS – More on the Diachrony of Alignment Change

5/27  NO CLASS

6/1  NO CLASS

6/3  PRESENTATION 2

6/7  FINAL PAPERS DUE