LING 580A:
Diachronic Syntax: A Chinese Case Study
Autumn 2011, University of Washington

Syllabus

Instructor: Edith Aldridge
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Office hours: Friday 11:15-12:15 or by appointment

Time: Tu 3:30-5:50
Location: PAA A212

Overview and objectives:
This course introduces the fundamental principles and components of diachronic syntactic
analysis and considers aspects of syntactic change in the history of Chinese in light of this
framework. Students are also expected to apply these principles in a diachronic syntactic analysis
on a language of their choosing.

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Preparation and class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly participation in GoPost discussion board</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation 1:</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation 2:</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Preliminary paper:</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Final Paper:</td>
<td>30%</td>
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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 per reading on the course GoPost discussion
board before each class meeting. The link to the discussion board can be found on the course
web site.

Presentation 1:
Each student will present one of the assigned readings for the class.

Presentation 2:
Students will present the main points from their final papers.

**Preliminary Paper (literature review):**
Students will write a critical review of three or more articles that will form all or part of the literature review for their final papers.

**Final Paper:**
Students will write an original research paper of approximately 15-20 pages (double-spaced) on a topic related to the course theme. Work on the paper must be exclusively your own, and you must give appropriate citations for any resources you consult, including online resources. The links below can help you familiarize yourself with policies concerning academic honesty.

http://depts.washington.edu/grading/issue1/honesty.htm#plagiarism

http://www.washington.edu/students/handbook/conduct.html

**Disability Accommodations:**
To request special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Disabled Student Services as soon as possible 448 Schmitz, Box 355839, tel. 543-8924, <uwdss@u.washington.edu>. If you already have a letter from Disabled Student Services indicating that you have a disability requiring academic accommodations, please let me see this letter as soon as possible. No retroactive accommodations will be given.

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**Course Outline and Schedule**

*Note: This schedule is tentative and subject to change at any time.*

**Date** | **Topics/Readings**
---|---
10/4 | **Introduction to Diachronic Syntax and Chinese Historical Syntax**


10/11 | **Object Relative Clauses**


10/18 Subject Relative Clauses


10/25 Basic Word Order and Word Order Change


11/1 Passive and Disposal Constructions


11/8 Morphological Cues and VV Compounds


11/15 Reflexive Pronouns


### 11/22 Neg-to-Q and Cyclic Change


### 11/29 Raising and Control


### 12/6 Final Presentations

### 12/14 Final papers due *(Absolute final due date. No extensions, please.)*