The course will take on the following topics in the following numerical order:

HANDOUT PACKET #1:
1. Universal Grammar and the study of language typology
2. Early work in generative syntactic typology
3. Parameterized principles and their properties

HANDOUT PACKET #2:
4. Typology, Universal Grammar, and Parsing
5. Parsing and basic word order typology
6. Typology, Universal Grammar, and language evolution

HANDOUT PACKET #3:
7. Optimality Theory and syntactic typology
8. Kayne’s Antisymmetric Program and typology
9. The Split-CP hypothesis

HANDOUT PACKET #4:
10. Null subjects
11. Bounding and Wh-Movement
12. Binding
13. Polysynthesis and nonconfigurationality

HANDOUT PACKET #5:
14. Head directionality
15. Ergativity
16. The subject side parameter
17. Verb attraction, subject placement, and VP-internal subjects

HANDOUT PACKET #6
18. Serial verbs
19. Preposition stranding

READING: Much of the course will center around a presentation and critical discussion of Mark Baker’s book *The Atoms of Language: The Mind’s Hidden Rules of Grammar* (2001, New York: Basic Books). It would be ideal if students could read it before the course begins (it can be ordered through amazon.com).

REQUIREMENTS:

Students registered for credit have three choices to fulfill their requirements:
1. They can give a short oral presentation on the last day of the class on some aspect of typology and generative syntax.
2. They can write a very short (2 page) essay due on the last day of the class. It should be a statement of some issue related to the course topic that they found interesting, challenging, unconvincing, etc. and would be a good topic for future research.
3. They can write a more substantial paper due at the end of the year.