

The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages
First term, 2022-2023

LING 3104 Syntax II

Course overview:

This course builds on Syntax I and continues to introduce to students important concepts in the study of syntax. This course will be focusing on **Principles & Parameters** modal (P&P) of the generative syntax, which is also known as **Government & Binding Theory** (GB). It explores the common properties of human languages (Universal Grammar) and systematic differences between different languages (parametric differences). Examples to illustrate the working of Universal Grammar and parametric differences will be from the more familiar languages such as English and Mandarin Chinese to the less familiar languages, such as Germanic and Romance languages, Japanese, etc. The course continues to develop students' appreciation of the complex structure formation capacity of the human linguistic system and sensitivity toward natural language structures. It also provides direct practical experience in analyzing syntactic problems in assignments.

Learning outcomes:

This course continues to further the goals of syntax I and aims

- to familiarize students with the goals, core assumptions and technical notions in the P&P modal of the generative grammar;
- to train students to be able to construct diagnostic tests to identify structural patterns, and become familiar with argumentation in syntax;
- to familiarize students with major constructions that have important bearings on Universal Grammar and parametric differences;
- To help students further develop skills in logical analysis and critical thinking.

Learning activities:

Lecture (hr) in class	Tutorial (hr) in class	Assignment (hr) out class	Reading (hr) out class
2	1	1 (on average)	4
Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory

Assessment scheme:

<i>Description</i>	<i>Points</i>
Assignment 1	30
Assignment 2	30
Assignment 3	40
Total=	100

Grade Descriptions:

Grade	Overall Course
A	<p>Outstanding performance on all learning outcomes.</p> <p>(i) Demonstrate thorough mastery of principles and subject matter in the course required for attaining all the course objectives (cf. Learning outcomes & List of topics).</p> <p>(ii) Demonstrate the ability to apply the analytical techniques introduced in the course to familiar and unfamiliar linguistic phenomena in familiar and unfamiliar languages.</p> <p>(iii) Demonstrate the ability to verify different theoretical hypotheses with solid arguments as well as coherent argumentation.</p> <p>(iv) Has the ability to express the knowledge or synthesis of ideas in a clear and cogent way.</p> <p>(v) Has extensive reading related to the course.</p>
A-	<p>Generally outstanding performance on all (or almost all) learning outcomes.</p> <p>(i) Demonstrate substantial command of principles and subject matter in the course required for attaining almost the course objectives (cf. Learning outcomes & List of topics).</p> <p>(ii) Demonstrate the ability to apply the analytical techniques introduced in the course to familiar and less familiar linguistic phenomena in familiar and some unfamiliar languages.</p> <p>(iii) Demonstrate the ability to verify different theoretical hypotheses in a logical and persuasive way.</p> <p>(iv) Has the ability to express the knowledge or synthesis of ideas with clarity and accuracy.</p> <p>(v) Has a certain amount of reading related to the course.</p>
B	<p>(i) Demonstrate general and sufficient command of principles and subject matter in the course required for attaining most the course objectives (cf. Learning outcomes & List of topics).</p> <p>(ii) Demonstrate the ability to apply the analytical techniques introduced in the course to most (but not necessarily all) familiar linguistic phenomena in familiar and some unfamiliar languages.</p> <p>(iii) Demonstrate the ability to verify different theoretical hypotheses in a logical and comprehensive way.</p> <p>(iv) Has the ability to express the knowledge or synthesis of ideas in a satisfactory and unambiguously was.</p> <p>(v) Has basic reading related to the course.</p>
C	<p>(i) Demonstrate general command of principles and subject matter in the course required for attaining some the course objectives (cf. Learning outcomes & List of topics).</p> <p>(ii) Demonstrate the ability to apply the analytical techniques introduced in the course to some familiar linguistic phenomena in familiar languages.</p> <p>(iii) Has the ability to express the separate pieces of knowledge in an unambiguously was.</p> <p>(v) Has some reading related to the course.</p>
D	<p>Barely satisfactory performance on a number of learning outcomes.</p> <p>(i) Demonstrate a partial command of principles and subject matter in the course required for attaining some the course objectives (cf. Learning outcomes & List of topics).</p> <p>(ii) Demonstrate the ability to apply the analytical techniques introduced in the course to some simple linguistic phenomena in familiar languages.</p> <p>(iii) Has the ability to state the knowledge in simple terms.</p> <p>(v) Has very limited reading related to the course.</p>
F	<p>(i) Demonstrate little or no evidence of command of principles and subject matter in the course required for attaining the course objectives (cf. Learning outcomes & List of topics).</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(ii) failure to meet specified assessment requirements.</p>

List of Topics: Checkpoints

Topic	Contents/fundamental concepts	Recommended readings
The Generative Enterprise: P&P modal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Innateness of Language Faculty - Language acquisition - Principles and Parameters framework 	Haegeman (1994): Intro. Ouhalla (1999): ch. 1 Poole (2011): ch. 1
X'-Theory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phrase structure - X'-theory (Why? How?) - Projections: NP, DP, VP, IP/TP, CP. 	Haegeman (1994): ch. 2 Ouhalla (1999): ch. 2, 6 Poole (2011): ch. 2, 3
Theta Theory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theta role assignment - Argument structure - θ-criterion 	Haegeman (1994): ch. 1 Ouhalla (1999): ch. 7 Poole (2011): ch. 4
Case Theory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abstract/Structural Case - Government; Spec-head agreement - Case filter - DP hypothesis - VP-shell hypothesis: vP 	Haegeman (1994): ch. 3 Ouhalla (1999): ch. 8 Poole (2011): ch. 4
Binding Theory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Binding conditions A, B, C - Anaphora, pronouns, referential expressions - Control vs. Raising 	Haegeman (1994): ch. 4, 5 Ouhalla (1999): ch. 9 Poole (2011): ch. 5
Movement Theory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A-movement/NP-movement - Burzio's generalization - Raising verbs, passivization - ECM verbs, unaccusatives, ergatives, unergatives - VP-subject-internal hypothesis 	Haegeman (1994): ch. 6 Ouhalla (1999): ch. 8 Poole (2011): ch. 6
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Head-movement - A'-movement, A'-positions, A'-dependency - <i>Wh</i>-movement, relativization, topicalization 	Haegeman (1994): ch. 7 Ouhalla (1999): ch. 8 Poole (2011): ch. 6
Locality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subjacency, bounding nodes - Island constraints, island types (strong, weak) - Empty Category Principle (ECP), intermediate traces - Condition on Extraction Domain (CED) - Relativized Minimality 	Haegeman (1994): ch. 7, 8 Ouhalla (1999): ch. 10 Poole (2011): ch. 6

Learning resources

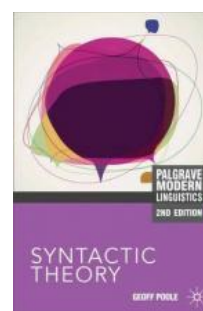
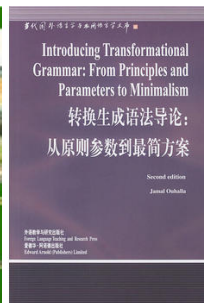
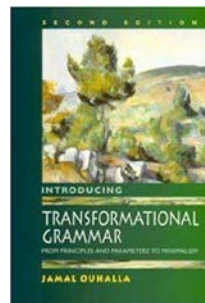
- Lecture handouts will be posted on the Blackboard website for download before class.
- The relevant concepts and techniques will be introduced and discussed in class. They include - but are not limited to - materials found in the textbook. Most students may find the textbook helpful. Disclaimer: In case of any conflict, in-class instructions always have precedence over the textbook.

Useful References

Recommended textbooks

1. Haegeman, Liliane (1994). *Introduction to Government & Binding Theory (Second edition)*, Blackwell Publishing.
2. Ouhalla, Jamal (1999). *Introducing Transformational Grammar: From Principles and Parameters to Minimalism (Second edition)*, Arnold Publishers. (essentially. ch. 6-9)
 - The authorized reprinted English version published by *Waiyu Jiaoxue Yu Yanjiu Chubanshe* [Foreign Language Teaching and Researching Press]. (This version is exactly the same as its original Second edition)
3. Poole, Geoffrey (2011). *Syntactic Theory*, 2nd edition. Macmillan.
 - The authorized reprinted English version published by *Shanghai Waiyu Jiaoyu Chubanshe* [Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press]. (This version is exactly the same as its original Second edition)

(Any of the three recommended textbooks will be helpful to accompany your study.)



Course schedule (subject to adjustment)

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1	Sep 5	No class	Inauguration Ceremony for Undergraduates 2022
2	Sep 12	No class	The 2nd day following the Mid-Autumn Festival
3	Sep 19	The generative enterprise	
4	Sep 26	X'-Theory (I)	
5	Oct 3	X'-Theory (II)	
6	Oct 10	X'-Theory (III)	
7	Oct 17	Theta Theory	
8	Oct 24	Case Theory (I)	
9	Oct 31	Case Theory (II)	
10	Nov 7	A-movement (I)	
11	Nov 14	A-movement (II) Binding Theory (I)	
12	Nov 21	Binding Theory (II)	
13	Nov 28	A'-movement Locality (I)	
14	Dec 5	Locality (II)	Make-up class

Feedback for evaluation:

- In addition to the standard final course evaluation, we will also set up **an anonymous Google form** for you to share things you like and dislike throughout the entire term. Your feedback will be incorporated accordingly.
- Meanwhile, you are more than welcome to contact either the instructor or the TAs about how you feel about this course at any point.
- Furthermore, you may share your thoughts and concerns by emailing your feedback or questions to us, or making appointments with us.
- If you feel that you are falling behind and have content questions, please also do not hesitate to ask us for help!
- When you contact us via emails, please kindly put “LING3104 Syntax II” in the subject line and allow us **24 hours (on weekdays)** to respond.

Teacher's contact details

Professor/Lecturer/Instructor:	
Name:	CHEN Zhuo
Office Location:	G18, Leung Kau Kui Building
Email:	zhuochen[AT]cuhk.edu.hk
Teaching Time & Venue (Lecture)	Mon 9:30-11:15, Lee Shau Kee Building 306
Office hours:	By appointment

Teaching assistant's contact details

Teaching Assistant/Tutor:	
Name:	XU Zetao
Office Location:	G20, Leung Kau Kui Building
Email:	1155146768[AT]link.cuhk.edu.hk
Teaching Time & Venue (Tutorial)	Mon 11:30-12:15, Lee Shau Kee Building 306
Office hours:	By appointment

Academic honesty and plagiarism

- Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>.
- With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign on the declaration.
- For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide (URL: <https://veriguide2.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/cuhk/index.jsp>), the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.