LING 541: Syntactic Theory (Fall 2018)

Instructor: Balkız Öztürk Başaran

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Schedule: MM 13:00-15:00 JF 321

WW 13:00-15:00 JF 321

Course Objective

The main goal of this course is to introduce the basic tenets and principles of the Minimalist Program. The course specifically focuses on how to account for cross-linguistic differences in terms of parameters and aims to teach how to make syntactic analyses and develop argumentation within the generative framework. Where relevant, the course also introduces a comparison of GB and the Minimalist Program (MP) highlighting how certain syntactic phenomena are accounted for within each model.

Course Requirements

| Assignments | %20 |
|---------------|-----|
| Final Paper | %40 |
| Presentations | %30 |
| Participation | %10 |

Textbook

Adger, D. 2003. Core Syntax. Oxford University Press.

Reference Books

Haegeman, L. 1994. *Introduction to Government and Binding Theory*. Blackwell: Oxford. Hornstein, N., J. Nunes and K. K. Grohmann. 2005. *Understanding Minimalism*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

Selected Readings

- Alexiadou, A., E. Anagnostopoulou, & M. Everaert. 2004. *The Unaccusativity Puzzle: explorations in the syntax-lexicon interface*. Chapter 1.
- Baker, Mark. 1997. 'Thematic Roles and Syntactic Structure'. In L.Haegeman (ed.), *Elements of Grammar*. 73-139.
- Baltin, M. 'A-Movement' 2000. In M. Baltin & Ch. Collins (eds.). In *The Handbook of Contemporary Syntactic Theory*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Bernstein, Judy. 2008. Reformulating the Determiner Phrase Analysis. *Language and Linguistics Compass* 2/6: 1246–1270.
- Cinque, Guglielmo. 1994. On the evidence for partial N-movement in the Romance DP. In *Paths Towards Universal Grammar: Studies in Honor of Richard S. Kayne*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 85-110.
- Davies, W. and S. Dubinsky. 2003. Raising (and Control). State-of-the-Article. *GLOT International* 7: 230-243.
- Pesetsky, D & E. Torrego. 2011. 'Case'. In C. Boeckx (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Minimalism*.

SYLLABUS

Week 1: Introduction – Overview of the course

Week 2: Morphosyntactic Features (Adger – Ch 2)

Week 3: Constituency and Theta Roles (Adger – Ch 3)

Week 4: Representing Phrase Structure (Adger – Ch 4)

Reading: Baker, Mark. 1997.

Week 5: Functional Categories I and TP (Adger – Ch 5)

Week 6: Subject and Objects (Adger – Ch 6)

Readings: Baltin 2000, Pesetsky and Torrego 2011

Week 7: Ch 6 – continued

Reading: Alexiadou et al. 2004

Week 8: DP structure (Adger – Ch 7)

Readings: Cinque 1994, Bernstein 2008

Week 9: CP Domain (Adger – Ch 8)

Readings: Davies&Dubinsky 2003

Week 10: Ch 8 - continued

Week 11: Wh-movemet (Adger – Ch 9)

Week 12: Locality (Adger – Ch 10)

Week 13: Student Presentations

Week 14: Student Presentations