

# LING 165B: SYNTAX II

Fall 2020

<b>Instructor</b> Nico(letta) Loccioni (loccioni@ucla.edu)	<b>Office Hours</b> M 4pm to 4:50pm & R 2pm to 2:50pm
<b>TA</b> Zhuo Chen (zchen0306@g.ucla.edu)	<b>Office Hours</b> M 10:30am-12:30pm
<b>Lectures/Discussion sections</b> T & R 10am-11:50am 1A F 8am-8:50am 1B F 10am-10:50am	<b>Meeting Link</b> available on CCLE available on CCLE available on CCLE

*last updated: 2020-09-29*

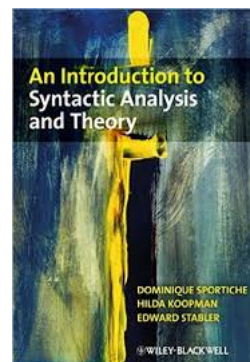
## 1 Course outline

This course is the second half of a two-part series designed to introduce you to the study of the field of syntax. In this course we will explore some of the same topics addressed in LING 120B but in greater depth and discovering greater complexity within and diversity among languages. We will learn how to use new information from a variety of languages to argue for or against theoretical proposals. We will also move onto new topics within syntax, learning to produce viable accounts for the grammaticality (or ungrammaticality) of sentences and how to illustrate those accounts through syntactic derivations.

We will have three primary goals: (1) to familiarize ourselves with the key topics and proposals of contemporary syntax, (2) to learn how to use the tools at our disposal to solve syntactic puzzles, and (3) to appreciate more fully the vast complexity of our language faculty.

## 2 Course Materials

- *An Introduction to Syntactic Analysis and Theory*  
D. Sportiche, H. Koopman, and E. Stabler. Wiley Blackwell. 2014.
- Supplemented with additional Lecture slides (these will be posted on the CCLE website for download. They sometimes contain some material not covered in class that you are supposed to know.)



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 will find the textbook helpful. Disclaimer: In case of any conflict, in-class instructions always have precedence over the textbook.

### 3 Prerequisites

#### Syntax 1 (Ling 120B)

**Basic skills:** Constituent structure analysis, drawing trees and understanding what these represent, interpreting constituency tests, specifying lexical entries, applying basic principles and reasoning with them, following and constructing linguistic argumentation, testing structural hypotheses.

### 4 Weekly schedule

At the beginning of each week, I will post a weekly schedule for the coming week. It will include the up-coming deadlines, announcements, assigned readings and information on where to get help that week.

It is crucial that you check it every week.

### 5 Requirements

- Homework Assignments (8): 44%
- Short in-class quizzes: 6% (Graded credit/no credit.)
- Midterm 20% (Thurs 11/05, regular class time.)
- Final Exam: 30% (Thurs, 12/17, 8am-11pm)

There is no participation credit. Attendance is not taken.

The midterm and final are cumulative.

#### 5.1 Homework Assignments

- There will be eight homework assignments
- The first assignment is graded for completion. It's worth 9%
- Homework assignments 2-8 are mostly graded for accuracy and they are equally weighted (each 13%)
- Assignments are (typically) published on Wednesday and due on Tuesday
- Assignments will cover material that has been up to the day the assignment is published
- Homework assignments have to be uploaded on CCLE as a single file by the deadline.
- You will most likely write your homework by hand. Please write legibly. What we can't read, we can't grade
- Grades are posted on MyUCLA as they become available

#### Late Homework Policy

- Homework assignments are due before class starts, at 10am. Assignments are accepted at the end of class with a 10% late penalty. They are not accepted during class.
- Late homework assignments will NOT be accepted without documentation of illness, personal emergency or religious observance.
- If you know you have to miss class the day the homework is due, get in touch with me beforehand.

- If you have other reasons for missing a deadline that you believe are legitimate, come and talk to me.

## 5.2 In-class quizzes

- We will have quizzes on most days, but not every day.
- They are graded for completion (credit/no credit)
- The quiz will have to be submitted on CCLE by 12:15pm.
- If you are going to miss due to illness, let your TA know in advance by email; you can make it up in your TA's office hours up to one week after class (but no later than that!)

If you are outside the US and the time difference does not allow you to participate to class, let Zhuo by Tuesday of Week 1.

## 5.3 Collaboration policy and Academic Honesty

Students are encouraged to discuss assignments with each other. However, you must write up your assignments on your own. You must also be in a position to discuss/explain your answers on an individual basis. All incidents of academic dishonesty (cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, or helping another student to commit one of these acts) will be subject to the UCLA policy in this matter.

Make sure to read the Student Conduct Code at:

<https://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Student-Conduct> and the Student Guide to Academic Integrity at: <https://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Academic-Integrity>. Consult these sources for more detail on procedures and possible sanctions.

Students may be disciplined for violations or attempted violations (including aiding, abetting, or participating in the planning of an act that would be in violation of this Code, whether or not the individual who carries out that act is a student). Violations include the following types of misconduct:

- *Cheating* - the failure to observe the expressed procedures of an academic exercise, including but not limited to:
  - Unauthorized acquisition of knowledge of an examination or part of an examination
  - Allowing another person to take a quiz, exam, or similar evaluation for you
  - Using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise or examination - textbook, notes, formula list, calculator, etc.
  - Unauthorized collaboration in providing or requesting assistance, such as sharing information on an academic exercise
  - Unauthorized use of another person's data in completing a computer exercise
  - Altering a graded exam or assignment and requesting that it be regraded
- *Facilitating Academic Dishonesty* - participating in any action that compromises the integrity of the academic standards of the University; assisting another to commit an act of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to:
  - Taking a quiz, exam, or similar evaluation in place of another person
  - Allowing another student to copy from you

- Providing material or other information to another student with knowledge that such assistance could be used in any of the violations stated above (e.g. giving test information to students in other discussion sections of the same course)
- *Plagiarism* - the presentation of another's words or ideas as if they were one's own, including but not limited to:
  - Submitting, as your own, through purchase or otherwise, part of or an entire work produced verbatim by someone else
  - Paraphrasing ideas, data, or writing without properly acknowledging the source
  - Unauthorized transfer and use of another person's computer file as your own

## 5.4 Midterm and Final Exam

You may bring in notes for the midterm and for Final Exam, but they must be a single sheet of paper (no bigger than the letter-sized paper; double-sided okay), handwritten, and must be written by yourself.

## 6 How to succeed in this class

- Always come to lecture and section There's nothing like missing class to make a person feel lost, confused, and out of it. Not only do you miss the material from the day you were gone, but you get less out of the next class too, sometimes leading to a downward spiral. Attending class and engaging with the material will make the class more enjoyable.
- Ask questions! Don't be shy! It is informative for me (maybe I'm going too fast or not explaining something well) and for your classmates who might have the same questions. Even if all you need is for me to repeat something, someone else in the class probably needed it too. Also, having misunderstandings clarified immediately will facilitate your learning of the material.
- Talk to us! ...if you realize you don't understand something or are having trouble with the course material. There are many reasons for you to approach me with questions (e.g. I went over the material too fast, you are not a native speaker of English and would like me to explain something in simpler terms, you missed class and need me to help you with some concepts or skills we covered, etc.) I also welcome you to talk to me about your ideas, if you disagree with something you've read, you're intrigued by something you've read, etc.
- Talk to your classmates! Discuss your readings, assignments, projects, and ideas. Study and practice together.
- Put away your devices! All the research shows that (i) humans think we're good at multi-tasking, and (ii) humans are bad at multi-tasking. Just put away your phone; it will be waiting for you in 50 minutes. The same goes for laptops; they are a huge distraction for both you and your neighbours! Plus, research shows that people learn more when they take notes by hand. If you need to take notes on a computer because you have a wrist/hand injury, dysgraphia, etc., let me know.

some of these suggestions below are from Kie Zuraw's handouts

## 7 Email policy

The best way to contact us is via email.

- Please put 'Ling165B' in the subject line of any emails to us.
- We do not answer content questions over e-mail.
- Before e-mailing one of us with an organizational or logistic question:
  - Consult the syllabus on whether it contains the answer to your question.
  - Consult all other materials relevant to your question:
    - a. Class e-mails from the last week
    - b. Homework assignment instructions
    - c. Lecture slides
    - d. Material handed out or posted by the TA
  - Consider whether your question can wait until the next time you see one of us (lecture or discussion section)
- We are operating under a 36 hour turn-around policy for e-mails.
  - Your e-mails will be answered within 36 hours after you sent it.
  - If the 36-hour window after your e-mail includes a weekend or a public holiday, they do not count towards the 36 hours. That is, if you are sending an e-mail on Friday, you cannot expect an answer earlier than Monday.

We will communicate with you by e-mail too. You will have to check your e-mail regularly.

## Schedule (subject to modification)

<i>Week:</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic:</i>	<i>Deadlines:</i>
<b>0</b>	Thurs. Oct 01	Constituency. The structure of phrases.	
	Tue. Oct 06	X-bar theory. The format of lexical entries.	
<b>1</b>	Thurs. Oct 08	Head movement and phrasal movement.	
	Tue. Oct 13	Raising to subject. Subject Control.	Assignment 1 is due.
<b>2</b>	Thurs. Oct 15	Cross-linguistic variation.	
	Tue. Oct 20	Raising to object. Object Control.	Assignment 2 is due.
<b>3</b>	Thurs. Oct 22	Questions and Wh-movement	
	Tue. Oct 27	Constraints on wh-movement, part I.	Assignment 3 is due.
<b>4</b>	Thurs. Oct 29	Constraints on wh-movement, part II.	
	Tue. Nov 03	Review	Assignment 4 is due.
<b>5</b>	Thurs. Nov 05	<b><u>Midterm</u></b>	
	Fri. Nov. 6	No discussion sections.	
	Tue. Nov 10	Subjacency and bounding nodes.	
<b>6</b>	Thurs. Nov 12	Probing Structures: <i>only</i> and NPI licensing.	
	Tue. Nov 17	Probing with binding.	Assignment 5 is due.
<b>7</b>	Thurs. Nov 19	VP-ellipsis/ sloppy and strict readings.	
	Tue. Nov 24	Our model of morphosyntax.	Assignment 6 is due.
<b>8</b>	Thurs. Nov 26	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	
	Tue. Dec 01	Causative verbs	Assignment 7 is due.
<b>9</b>	Thurs. Dec 03	VP shells	
	Tue. Dec 08	Coordination and more on Binding	Assignment 8 is due.
<b>10</b>	Thurs. Dec 10	Final Review	