

Associated Canadian Theological Schools

LIN 660: Problems in Morphology and Syntax

Joelle Merilatt Goldberg, MA Linguistics
Spring 2012
3 credit hours
LIN 560 or its equivalent
(with a grade of B- or above)

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Harvest Centre, Room 208
T, Th 4-5:15pm

I. Course Description

This course continues to explore the various morphological and syntactic structures found in the world's languages. In addition to further study of topics previously introduced in LING 560 (Syntax and Semantics), students also examine features such as: inflection, derivation, and compounding; deixis; grammaticalization; and non-declarative speech acts. The emphasis is on solving problems that arise in data from a variety of language families and types. Students apply the course discussion to the preparation of a linguistic paper.

II. Objectives

By the end of this course, each student should:

1. understand some of the more complex morphological and syntactic processes exemplified in languages around the world;
2. understand and evaluate a variety of language descriptions and analyses based upon a theoretical viewpoint;
3. describe and analyze morphological and syntactic structures in a particular language making use of insights from syntactic theory.

III. Course Textbooks

There is no core text for this class. Readings will be taken from a variety of sources and will be made available on reserve in the CanIL library and on the course website at <https://courses.mytwu.ca/> as the class progresses.

IV. Course Assignments

The grade breakdown is as follows. A brief description is given here and further instructions for each assignment will be given as they come up. There is no final exam for this class.

Term Paper <i>A research paper taking an in-depth look at one of the topics covered in class.</i>	30%
Term Paper presentation <i>An oral presentation of your research paper in class.</i>	15%
Response Papers (8% x 5) <i>Short papers responding to and interacting with the core and case study readings. One is due every two weeks.</i>	40%
Class participation - <i>see below</i>	15%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A+	97-100	4.30
A	93-96	4.00
A-	90-92	3.70
B+	87-89	3.30
B	83-86	3.00
B-	80-82	2.70
C+	77-79	2.30
C	73-76	2.00
C-	70-72	1.70
F	Below 70	0.00

V. Miscellaneous Notes/Policies

❖ General Expectations

Reading: Students are responsible to complete all reading assignments in order to participate fully in the class discussions.

Participation: Participation is a major part of this class, particularly in the ‘case study’ sessions. Each student’s participation grade will be based on their attention, vocal involvement, and consideration of others in class discussions and activities. Students are expected to give short presentations of the content of their weekly case study.

Missed classes: Students missing class sessions are responsible for determining what content and/or assignment(s) they may have missed. Please respect the instructors by informing them of the reason for absences - unexplained absences will reduce your participation grade.

Late Policy: All assignments should be turned in by the date and time indicated on the course outline. If there are extenuating circumstances, students are expected to contact the instructor prior to the posted due date. An unexcused late submission of an assignment will incur **a grade point deduction** for each day after the posted due date (A to A-, A- to B+, etc.).

VI. Tentative Course Outline

An additional detailed bibliography and reading list will be supplied.

Wk	DATE		TOPIC	REQUIRED READING	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
	M	9 Jan			
	T	10	1 Introductions	Carstairs-McCarthy (1998) & McCarthy and Prince (1998)	
1	W	11			
	Th	12	2 Phonology-morphology interface	Chosen case study	
	F	13			
	M	16			
	T	17	3 Wordhood	Zwicky and Pullum (1983)	
2	W	18			
	Th	19	4 Wordhood	Chosen case study	
	F	20			Response Paper 1
	M	23			
	T	24	5 Clitics	Anderson (2005) & Zwicky (1994)	
3	W	25			
	Th	26	6 Clitics	Chosen case study	
	F	27			
	M	30			
	T	31	7 Relative ordering of clitics and affixes	Baker (1985) & Heggie & Ordonez (2005)	
4	W	1 Feb			
	Th	2	8 Relative ordering of clitics and affixes	Chosen case study	
	F	3			Response Paper 2
	M	6			
	T	7	9 Grammatical relations	Farrell (2005) & Dixon (1994)	
5	W	8			
	Th	9	10 Grammatical relations	Chosen case study	
	F	10			
	M	13			
	T	14	11 Voice	Farrell (2005)	

6	W	15			
	Th	16	12 Voice	Chosen case study	
	F	17			Response Paper 3
7	M	20			
	T	21	13 Valence and transitivity, with focus on noun incorporation	Mithun (1984)	
	W	22			
8	Th	23	14 Valence and transitivity	Chosen case study	
	F	24			
	Feb27-Mar 2		<i>Reading break</i>		
9	M	5			
	T	6	15 Complex constructions, with focus on serial verb and switch reference constructions	Roberts (1988) & Aikhenvald and Dixon (2006)	
	W	7			
10	Th	8	16 Complex constructions	Chosen case study	
	F	9			Response Paper 4
	M	12			
11	T	13	17 <i>Field trip to UBC library</i>		
	W	14			
	Th	15	18 Space and time	Aikhenvald (2004) & Levinson (2003) & chosen case study	
12	F	16			
	M	19			
	T	20	19 Form and function	Lambrecht (1994)	
13	W	21			
	Th	22	20 Form and function	Chosen case study	
	F	23			Response Paper 5
14	M	26			
	T	27	21 Approaches to syntax	Newmeyer (2000)	
	W	28			
15	Th	29	22 Approaches to syntax	Chosen case study	
	F	30			
	M	2			
16	T	3	23 Theory in description and analysis	TBA	Final paper
	W	4			
	Th	5	24 TBA	TBA	
17	F	6	<i>GOOD FRIDAY</i>		
	M	9	<i>EASTER MONDAY</i>		
	T	10	25 Paper presentations		Presentations
18	W	11			
	Th	12	26 Paper presentations		Presentations
	F	13			

Supplement: Important Academic Notes from ACTS

Web Support – Student Portal <https://students.twu.ca>

All students at TWU have a TWUPass username and password. This is determined at the time of an online application or can be managed through the computing services help desk or the link on the student portal. Your student email account is also available through this student portal and is vital for communication about grades, account statements, lost passwords, sign-up instructions, etc. If you do not know your account or password, there is a link at the login area called “I forgot my password.” When you click on that link, you will be walked through the process of retrieving your account information.

Campus Closure

In the event of deteriorating weather conditions or other emergency situations, every effort will be made to communicate information regarding the cancellation of classes to the following radio stations CKNW (980 AM), CKWX (1130 AM), STAR FM (107.1 FM), PRAISE (106.5 FM) and KARI (550 AM). As well, an announcement will be placed on the University’s campus closure notification message box (604.513.2147) and on the front page of the University’s website (<http://www.twu.ca> – also see <http://www.twu.ca/conditions> for more details).

An initial announcement regarding the status of the campus and cancellation of classes is made at 6:00 AM and covers all classes beginning before 1:00PM. A second announcement is made at 11:00AM that covers all classes which begin between 1:00PM and 5:00PM. A third announcement is made at 3:00PM and covers those classes which begin after 5:00PM.

Paper Formatting

Students need to adhere the CanIL style sheet for all submitted assignments.

Students are strongly encouraged to use RefWorks (available through the library home page www.twu.ca/library) as their bibliographical manager and as a tool for formatting bibliographies. They will need to be aware of the need to “clean up” most bibliographies generated by this program. Students are encouraged to view the documents on the following websites for format samples:

http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html or www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/. Note that in RefWorks the available formatting styles are those of Turabian (Notes), 7th edition, and APA – American Psychological Association, 5th edition. For Turabian, note that there are two formats – Notes (or Bibliography Style) and Reference List (a short format citation style). ACTS uses the Notes (Bibliography) format, not Reference List.

For free online programs that will enable you to create properly formatted bibliography citations, go to <http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/> ("Chicago stands for "Turabian") or <http://www.sourceaid.com/citationbuilder/>

CANIL students can locate this on the CANIL intranet, under the “student” side. A hard copy is given to incoming students in the fall.

Please check with your professor to see which one he/she recommends you use!!

Course Evaluations

Course evaluations are an important aspect of improving teaching outcomes and for students and faculty professional development. Therefore, completion of course evaluations are considered a course expectation. Professors will schedule time to fill out the online course evaluation (20-30 minutes) during their last scheduled class of the semester, for students to complete on their personal laptop or a collegium computer. Students who are absent or otherwise unable to complete the online course evaluation in the last class, will be expected to make every effort to do so by the last day of exams. Information about how to access online evaluation forms will be provided to the faculty and students prior to the last week of classes by the ACTS Administration.

Research Ethics

Please note that all research projects involving human participants undertaken by members of the TWU university community (including projects done by ACTS students to satisfy course or degree requirements) **MUST** be approved by the Trinity Western University Research Ethics Board. Information and forms may be found at <http://www.twu.ca/academics/research/ethics/> Those needing additional clarification may contact the ACTS Academic Dean's office. Please allow at least three (3) weeks from the date of submission for a review of the application.

Academic Integrity and Avoiding Plagiarism at TWU

As Christian scholars pursuing higher education, academic integrity is a core value of the entire TWU community. Students are invited into this scholarly culture and required to abide by the principles of sound academic scholarship at TWU. This includes, but is not limited to, avoiding all forms of plagiarism and cheating in scholarly work. TWU has a strict policy on plagiarism (see academic calendar 2008-09, pp. 37-38). Further details on this subject are contained in the ACTS Student Handbook in section 4.12. The handbook is available online on the ACTS webpage (www.acts.twu.ca) at the following link: www.acts.twu.ca/Handbook.html.

Learning what constitutes plagiarism and avoiding it is the student's responsibility. An excellent resource describing plagiarism and how to avoid it has been prepared by TWU Librarian William Badke and is freely available for download (PPT file) or used as flash (self running) tutorials of varying lengths from:

<http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/plagiarism.ppt>

<http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/Plagiarism.swf> (14 minute flash tutorial)

http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/Plagiarism_Short.swf (8 minute flash tutorial)

Equity of Access

It is the responsibility of a student with a learning disability to inform the ACTS Director of Student Life of that fact before the beginning of a course so that necessary arrangements may be made to facilitate the student's learning experience. We are unable to accommodate any student who informs the Director of Student Life of a disability after the beginning of class.