

# Core Components of Language B

Winter Term 2020-21

## Syllabus

### ORIGINAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course presents core concepts in syntax (constituency, movement, functional elements, embedding, hierarchies), compositional semantics (predication, connectives, quantification, movement at logical form) and formal pragmatics (conversational implicature, presupposition, discourse models). The goal is to make the students proficient in the relevant terminology, empirical tests and analytical tools, preparing them for reading research papers in these areas of linguistics.

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### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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|--|-----|
| • Class attendance and participation                           | 0%  |
| • Weekly homework assignments, to be discussed<br>the tutorial | 0%  |
| • Three Take Homes (25% x 3)                                   | 75% |
| • Presentation of a research article (in groups)               | 25% |

## OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

SYNTAX		
02.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constituency, geometrical relations, Binding Theory</li> <li>• X-bar Theory, extended X-bar Theory, Theta Theory</li> <li>• Functional categories; raising vs. control; head movement</li> <li>• DP movement, wh-movement, unified theory of movement</li> </ul> <p><u>Reading:</u> Carnie, A. 2013. <i>Syntax: A generative introduction</i> (3rd ed.). Blackwell.</p>	Ch. 2-5
09.11		Ch. 6-8
16.11		Ch. 9, part of Ch 15, Ch. 10
23.11		Ch. 11-13
23.11 --> 29.11	Take Home I	

SEMANTICS		
30.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Truth conditional semantics. Logic</li> <li>• Set Theory. Meaning of names and predicates: lambda notation</li> <li>• Composing meaning: Functional Application, Predicate Modification</li> <li>• Quantifier meanings. Quantification: Predicate</li> </ul> <p><u>Readings:</u> Heim, I., and A. Kratzer. 1998. <i>Semantics in Generative Grammar</i>. Blackwell. Partee, B., ter Meulen, A., &amp; Wall. 1990. <i>Mathematical Methods in Linguistics</i>. Kluwer.</p>	H&K ch. 1; P&al ch.6 (pp. 97-112) and ch.7 (pp. 35-152)
07.12		P&al ch.1-2; H&K ch. 2
14.12		H&K ch. 4
21.12		H&K ch 6-7
21.12 --> 10.01	Take Home II	

PRAGMATICS		
11.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversational implicature. Reference.</li> <li>• Presupposition. Speech acts.</li> <li>• Conventional implicature. Information structure.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reading:</u> Birner, B. 2013. <i>Introduction to Pragmatics</i>. Oxford, Malden: Wiley-Blackwell. Potts, C. 2007. Into the Conventional Implicature Dimension, <i>Philosophy Compass</i> 2/4: 665-679.</p>	Birner ch.2, ch.4
18.01		Birner ch.5, ch.6
25.01		Potts 2007, Birner ch.7
25.01 --> 31.01	Take Home III	

08.02	STUDENT CLASS PRESENTATIONS
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