**University of Western Ontario**
**Linguistics Program**
**LING9600A/4248A: Introduction to Generative Syntax**
**Fall 2017**


Instructor:      Michiya Kawai (mkawai@uwo.ca)          Thursday: 09:30-12:30
Office:          HUC-A-214
Office Hours:    Tu: 14:30-15:30, or by appointment
TEL:             519-438-7224 x330

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:**
        To acquire the basic knowledge of the current transformational syntax
        To become fluent in the current linguistic research methods
        To understand the issues for the current research program(s) in syntax
        To perform syntactic research

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Critical analysis of the development of transformational generative grammar.  We will first examine
Chomsky's (1957) analysis of English auxiliary system, and see how it is developed into the principles-
and-parameters theory and the current minimalist program.

The course will be conducted through lectures and classroom discussions based upon the reading
materials, students' individual research, and other materials.  Students are required to select a small
research topic for the term paper, do research in consultation with the instructor, and write a short (20±
single-space) page term paper.

Students are expected to actively participate in discussion and conduct their own research.


**REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS:**

Lasnik, Howard, with Marcela Depiante and Arthur Stepanov.  2000.  *Syntactic Structures Revisited*:
        *Contemporary Lectures on Classic Transformational Theory*.  Cambridge, Ma: MIT Press.

**Sample Additional Reading Mateirals:**

Chomsky, Noam. 1956. Three models for the description of language. *IEEE Trans. on Info. Theory*, Vol.
2.3: 113–124.

Lasnik, Howard.  1990.  Syntax.  In Daniel N. Osherson and Howard Lasnik eds., *Language* 2Tsi6. 90193Tm(JTET EMC  F

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**Suggested Background Readings:**

Chomsky, Noam.  1965.  *Aspects of the Theory of Syntax*.  Cambridge, Ma: MIT Press.

Chomsky, Noam.  1995.  Categories and Transformation. In *The Minimalist Program*.  Cambridge, Ma: MIT Press.

Chomsky, Noam.  2000.  Minimalist Inquiry.  In Roger Martin, David Michaels, and Juan Uriagereka eds., *Step by Step: Essays on Minimalist Syntax in Honor of Howard Lasnik*. Cambridge, Ma: MIT Press.

Cook, V. J., and Mark Newson.  2007.

**Support Services**
Registrarial Services:  http://www.registrar.uwo.ca

Student Support Services: http://westernusc.ca/services/

Student Development Services:

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help."

**Related Policies and Notes:**

For the Policy on Accommodation for Illness and a downloadable SMC see

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

For downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Students seeking academic accommodation on illness grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

With regards to elements worth less than 10%, which means "pop-in-class quizzes", students may complete it outside the class, with the instructor's permission.

**http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/schedu(nt)§u**

**Linguistics 9600A/4248A          Syntax I          Tentative Schedule**


09/07          Introduction: Defining the scope of this course
               Business Matters, Requirements, etc.
               Chomsky: Three models

09/14          Fundamental Tools & Phrase Structures I
               LDS     Ch1:  Structure and Infinity of Human Language
               Chomsky: Three models

09/21          Phrase Structure II & Transformation I & Verbal Morphology
               LDS     Ch1:  Structure and Infinity of Human Language
               Lasnik 2005

09/28          Transformation II & Lexical Properties
               LDS     Ch2:  Transformational Grammar

10/05          Transformation III & Principles and Parameters (*Government and Binding*)
               LDS     Ch2:     Transformational Grammar
               Lasnik 1990

*10/07*          *Mid-Term Due*

*10/12*          *Fall Reading Week*

10/19          *Government and Binding*
               LDS     Ch2:     Transformational Grammar
               Lasnik 1990

10/26          *Government and Binding* and Verb Raising (Verbal Morphology)
               LDS     Ch2:  Transformational Grammar
               Lasnik 1990

11/02          From GB to Minimalist & Architecture: Phrase Revisited
               LDS     Ch3:  Verbal Morphology
               Lasnik 2005

11/09          Minimalist Approach I & Phrase Structures/Movement Revisited
               LDS     Ch3:  Verbal Morphology
               Lasnik 2005

11/16          Minimalist Approach II: English Verbal Morphology I
               LDS     Ch3:  Verbal Morphology
               Lasnik 1995

11/23          Minimalist Approach III: English Verbal Morphology II
               LDS     Ch3:  Verbal Morphology
               Lasnik 1995/1999

*11/29*           *4248A Students Final Papers Due*

11/30           Wrap