

**Syntax 1**  
**LIN6501**  
**Monday/Wednesday/Friday 12:50-13:40**  
**Online (Most Classes): Zoom | In-Person: MAT0117**

**Instructor:** Dr.Marcin Dadan (he/him)

**Contact:** marcin.dadan@ufl.edu

**Office hours:** Thu 13:55-15:50/ Fri: 15:00-15:50 and by appointment | at Zoom & TUR 4106  
*Always send me an email if you want to meet. We will find the time that works for both of us!*

**Course Description:** This course is an introduction to the generative model of syntactic theory. By looking at the word order possibilities and constraints in English and other languages, we will model some basic properties of human language, as a rule governed, complex, and sophisticated system open to scientific inquiry. We will use scientific method to make generalizations about the observed language phenomena, postulate and test the theory to account for them, and develop syntactic tools to formally represent it. We will go through some important developments in the theory of generative syntax up to some of the most recent version of this framework.

Note that this is a hybrid course, which includes both online instructions and some face-to-face component.

**Objectives:** Students who complete this course will be able to:

- Become familiar with various grammatical phenomena
- Learn the basic tools and principles of generative syntax
- Learn how to work within a formal theory
- Develop argumentation and research skills

**Prerequisites:** No Prerequisites for graduate students. Undergraduate students should have completed LIN 3010 (Introduction to Linguistics) and LIN 3460 (Structure of Human Language). Contact me if you are in doubt.

**Required Textbook:** Koenenman, Olaf & Hedde Zeijlstra. 2017. *Introducing Syntax*. Cambridge University Press.

**Readings:** Additional readings, handouts, additional homework, and assignments will be posted on the course website on CANVAS.

Both exams and homework will be based not only on the textbook, but also additional readings and handouts.

**Classes:** The attendance is obligatory. Most classes will be conducted as live lectures on Zoom with exercises based on the assigned readings. Sometimes there will be pre-recorded video-lectures posted on Canvas. In order to follow the material and be able to actively participate in solving the exercises you need to come prepared, i.e., having read the assigned material. Classes should also help you to clarify any confusing and difficult notions you may have encountered in the readings. You are welcome and encouraged to ask questions and participate in the discussions.

**Homework:** There will be around 6 homework sets throughout the semester. Part of it will be taken from the textbook (KZ), some additional exercises will be posted on Canvas. Make sure to check the most recent version of the syllabus to see the due dates and contents. Homework should be either very neatly handwritten or typed. The same goes for the tree. I will give you some suggestions on particular software at the beginning of the semester. Homeworks must be submitted electronically on Canvas (in either .doc or .pdf format) by the date when they are due. Extensions can be given in special circumstances only. You are welcome to discuss the homework problems with other members of this class, but you must write up your solutions entirely on your own, without help, in accordance with the University of Florida Honor Code and the academic honesty guidelines. What you turn in for credit and grading must be entirely your own work. You may redo your homework within the time-limits specified by me if your initial grade is below C.

**Midterm Exam:** There will a **face-to-face in-class exam** based on the readings, handouts, and class exercises **on Friday, 11/20, 2020**.

**Final Exam:** There will be one do-at-home exam based on the readings, handouts, and class exercises uploaded on Canvas in the last week of the classes. You will have one week to complete it and submit it on Canvas. Consult the latest version of the syllabus for the exact dates!

**Grading:** Course grades will be determined as shown below:

Homework: 25%	A	93	C	73
Midterm Exam (in person): 20%	A-	90	C-	70
Final Exam (take/do-at-home): 30%	B+	87	D+	67
	B	83	D	63
	B-	80	D-	60
	C+	77	F	below 60

Additional information about the University's grade policies is available:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

#### **Other information:**

Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voice recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials by students or any other party is prohibited.

**Missed/late work & absences:** You should assume that late work will not be accepted. All requests for exceptions due to illness, religious obligations, unexpected emergencies, or other extenuating circumstances must be made before the exam date or homework due date.

**Academic honesty:** Academic misconduct, including but not limited to cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated. It may result in disciplinary action and failure in the course. The University has an Honor Code which reads as follows: *We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.* The honor code is accessible online:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>.

The bottom line is: On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.*

Copying or sharing any part of your homework assignments in any way, shape, or form is strictly prohibited. For computer work, this includes, but is not limited to, using the same file/document as someone else, using a modified file/document, or copying information between files/documents. No written work may be a joint effort in any way unless explicitly permitted and stated.

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:** Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting:

<https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>.

It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

**Course evaluations:** Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at:

<https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/>

Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.

**Software Use:** All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

**Student Privacy:** There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

**Health & Wellness:** *U Matter, We Care:* If you are or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

*Counseling and Wellness Center:* <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

*Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS):* Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

*University Police Department* at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

### **Academic Resources:**

**E-learning technical support:** 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu).  
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

**Library Support:** <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Teaching Center:** Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

**Writing Studio,** 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.  
<https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

**On-Line Students Complaints:** <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.

**Tentative Schedule:** See the next page for the tentative schedule. All dates and topics are subject to change based on our pace. You will be informed about any changes in the syllabus. Pay attention to the 'Syllabus' section on CANVAS and class announcements for an up-to-date schedule. 'KZ' in the reading section refers to relevant chapters from Koeneman&Zeijlstra (2017)(our textbook). All other readings will be posted on CANVAS. All readings for a particular week must be done before the class. It will help you getting the most out of each class and the whole course.

Week	Dates	Topics	Readings	Notes / Work
1	08/31, 09/02, 09/04	Introduction: Generative Grammar, Scientific Method, Grammatical Judgments	Carnie Ch1, Myers 2009	
2	09/09, 09/11	Categories & Features	KZ Ch1	HW1
3	09/14, 09/16, 09/18	Constituents, Trees, Hierarchical Relations	KZ Ch2	
4	09/21 09/23, 09/25	X'-theory & Binding	Carnie Ch5 Carnie Ch6,7	HW1 DUE HW2
5	09/28, 09/30, 10/02	Theta Theory	KZ Ch3	
6	10/05 10/07, 10/09	Case Theory & Functional Projections	KZ Ch4	HW2 DUE HW3
7	10/12, 10/14, 10/16	Agreement & Uninterpretable features	KZ Ch5	
8	10/19 10/21, 10/23	Movement	KZ Ch6	HW3 DUE HW4
9	10/26, 10/28, 10/30	Unifying Movement & Agreement	KZ Ch7	
10	11/02 11/04, 11/06	Syntax & Semantics	KZ Ch10	HW4 DUE HW5
11	11/09 11/13	Wh-movement & Locality: Islands	Carnie Ch12	HW5 DUE
12	11/16, 11/18 11/20 (Friday)	Review <b>MIDTERM</b>		<b>In-Person</b>
13	11/23	Syntax & Phonology	KZ Ch9	HW6
14	11/30, 12/02 12/04	Ellipsis	Carnie Ch16	HW6 DUE
15	12/07 <b>12/09</b>	Review		Exam Uploaded
16	<b>12/17</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM DUE</b>		