



Jordan University of Science and Technology
Faculty of Science & Arts
English Language & Linguistics Department

ENG771 Syntax

First Semester 2021-2022

Course Catalog

3 Credit Hours. This course aims at introducing students to syntactic theory within the generative tradition, with an emphasis on Minimalism as outlined by Noam Chomsky (1998 and subsequent work). Chomsky contends that the logical goal of linguistic inquiry is to unravel the mysteries of language acquisition. To do so, a theory of the grammar should be observationally, descriptively, and explanatorily adequate. In this course we will be looking at the generative theory of the grammar in terms of its treatment and analysis of different aspects of the structure of human language (with emphasis on different varieties of English). Topics that will be dealt with include: grammatical categories, different types of movement, and agreement.

Text Book

Title	An Introduction to English Sentence Structure
Author(s)	Radford, A
Edition	1st Edition
Short Name	Ref 2
Other Information	

Course References

Short name	Book name	Author(s)	Edition	Other Information
Ref 4	Syntax: A Generative Introduction.	Carnie, A.	3rd Edition	
Ref 1	Analysing English Sentences	Radford, A.	2nd Edition	
Ref 3	Introduction to Minimalism	Van Gelderen, E.	1st Edition	

Instructor

Name	Dr. Osama Abdel-Ghafer
Office Location	PH4 L0
Office Hours	

Email	abghafer@just.edu.jo
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Class Schedule & Room

Section 1:
 Lecture Time: Wed : 14:30 - 17:30
 Room: A3130

Tentative List of Topics Covered

Weeks	Topic	References
Week 1	Grammar	From Ref 1
Week 2	Words	From Ref 1
Weeks 3, 4	Structure	From Ref 1
Weeks 4, 5, 6	Null constituents	From Ref 2
Weeks 7, 8	Head movement	5 From Ref 2
Weeks 9, 10	Wh- movement	6 From Ref 2
Weeks 11, 12	A-movement	From Ref 2
Weeks 13, 14	Agreement, case and movement	From Ref 2
Week 15	Revision	

Mapping of Course Outcomes to Program Student Outcomes	Course Outcome Weight (Out of 100%)	Assessment method
1. understanding the basic assumptions of generative grammar, with an emphasis on Minimalism [1CLO 1, 1CLO 2]	10%	
2. applying the theory to real-world data (English) [1CLO 3, 1CLO 4]	30%	
3. identifying the major principles that underlie language [1CLO 2]	15%	
4. understanding language variation [1CLO 3]	15%	
5. familiarizing students with syntactic analysis and research [1CLO 3, 1CLO 4]	30%	

Relationship to Program Student Outcomes (Out of 100%)

CLO 1	CLO 2	CLO 3	CLO 4	CLO 5
5	20	45	30	

Evaluation

Assessment Tool	Weight
Mid-term	30%

Final	50%
Quizzes	10%
Presentation	10%

Policy	
Syntax	Students are required to ? attend all classes ? attend the quizzes and exams; no make-up exam will be given without PROPER DOCUMENTATION. ? participate in class discussions

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