

Course Outline: Topics in the Syntax-Semantic Interface

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURE & LINGUISTICS

Note for students: This short course outline is provided for planning purposes only. Course information is tentative and subject to change; the final course syllabus will be available by the first day of classes.

Course Code

AP/LING4150 3.0 Topics in the Syntax-Semantic Interface

Course Description

This course explores issues at the syntax-semantics interface from a generative grammar perspective in a variety of languages, centering on three levels: (i) Predicate internal: events, inner versus outer aspect and the relationship each type has with syntactic structure; Case and its relationship to aspect and types of arguments; (ii) Clause internal: structural encodings of discourse related properties (topic-comment, theme-rheme, focus-presupposition); mood and modality (iii) Cross-clausal (i.e. clause external but sentence internal): control, raising, evidentiality and clausal representation. Prerequisites: 6 LING credits at the 3rd year level, including LING3140 with a minimum grade of C+

Course Delivery

Delivery Mode: In-person Seminar

Course Materials

Handouts and Linguistics papers posted in eClass

Tentative Grade Breakdown and Deadlines

Assessment	Weight	Mode	Tentative Deadline
Assignment	20%	Take-home exercises; can be joint work	January 28
Summary paper	15%	Take-home, 3 pages; individual	February 23

Assessment	Weight	Mode	Tentative Deadline
Response paper	20%	Take-home, 5 pages; can be joint work	March 23
Exam	25%	Take-home exercises; individual	April 13
Squibs	15%	3 take-home 1-page commentary marked only for completeness; individual	February 9, March 9, April 6
Participation	5%	Class contributions	Jan. 5 – March 30
	100%		