

**Linguistics 620: Introduction to Syntax**  
**MW 5:00-6:15**  
**Location Humanities Classroom Building 402**

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION Mila Tasseva  
Office: Humanities Office Building 315  
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TEXTS Tallerman, Maggie. 2005. *Understanding syntax*. Second edition. London: Arnold Publishers.  
Carnie, Andrew. 2007. *Syntax: A generative introduction*. Second edition. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.

COURSE OVERVIEW

As the title suggests, the main focus of this course is syntactic theory. Whether or not you will work in theoretical linguistics in the future, knowledge of the basic linguistics theories will always prove useful in your future career. This course will give you the tools you need to broaden your understanding of how language works. It has two major foci: (i) to give you the basics of the formal generative approach to syntactic structures, (ii) to provide you with a hands on experience in doing syntactic analysis.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Graded homework assignments and class participation	30%
2. Preliminary exam 1	10%
3. Preliminary exam 2	15%
4. Two short (3-5 page) reports	10%
5. Final exam	20%
6. Final short (5-10 pp.) paper	15%

GRADING SCALE

A	=	92.0-100.0 = excellent, extraordinary, exceptional, exemplary
B+	=	88.0-91.9 = very good, commendable, admirable, praiseworthy
B	=	82.0-87.9 = good, acceptable, adequate, passable, ok
C+	=	78.0-81.9 = not graduate level
C	=	72.0-77.9 = unsatisfactory
D+	=	68.0-71.9
D	=	62.0-67.9
F	=	0-61.9

OTHER POLICIES

- The grade for late assignments will be reduced by one-half of a letter grade for each day that they are late.

## SCHEDULE

<u>Week</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	8/25	Tallerman, Ch. 1	Introduction. What is syntax?
	8/27	Tallerman, Ch. 2	Word classes
2	9/1	<b>NO CLASS, Labor Day</b>	
	9/3	Tallerman, Ch. 3	Clauses types
3	9/8	Tallerman, Ch. 4	Heads and dependents
	9/10	Tallerman, Ch. 5	Constituent structure
4	9/15	Tallerman, Ch. 6	Relations
	9/17	Tallerman, Ch. 7	Transformations
5	9/22		
	9/24	<b>Exam #1</b>	
6	9/29	Carnie, Ch. 4, 5	Structural relations, Binding theory
	10/1		
7	10/6	Carnie, Ch. 6	X-bar theory
	10/8		
8	10/13	Carnie, Ch. 7, 8	Constraining/extending X-bar theory
	10/15		
9	10/20	<b>Exam #2</b>	
	10/22	Carnie, Ch. 9	Head-to-head movement
10	10/27		
	10/29	Carnie, Ch. 10	NP/DP movement
11	11/3		
	11/5	Carnie, Ch. 11,12	Wh-movement
12	11/10		
	11/12	Carnie, Ch. 13	VP-shell
13	11/17		
	11/19	Carnie, Ch. 14	Raising and control
14	11/24		
	11/26	<b>NO CLASS, Thanksgiving</b>	
15	12/1	Carnie, Ch. 15	Binding theory
	12/3		
16	12/9	<b>Final exam AND final paper – 5 PM</b>	