

Course unit Descriptor		 UNIVERZITET U NOVOM SADU UNIVERSITY OF NOVI SAD
	Faculty of Philosophy	

GENERAL INFORMATION

Study program in which the course unit is offered	English Studies
Course unit title	Generative Syntax 1
Course unit code	o8EJEJ303
Type of course unit ¹	optional
Level of course unit ²	Bachelor
Field of Study (please see ISCED ³)	Literature and Linguistics
Semester when the course unit is offered	summer
Year of study (if applicable)	
Number of ECTS allocated	7
Name of lecturer/lecturers	Dr Sabina Halupka Rešetar
Name of contact person	Dr Sabina Halupka Rešetar
Mode of course unit delivery ⁴	Face to face
Course unit pre-requisites (e.g. level of language required, etc)	

PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW (max 5-10 sentences)

The course focuses on methods and argumentation for formal analysis of sentence structure through induction from language data of central concepts and relations; hypothesis testing, empirical bases of theoretical concepts.

LEARNING OUTCOMES (knowledge and skills)

By the end of the course students have a sound knowledge of the basics of one of the major syntactic theories (the Minimalist Programme of Chomsky 1993, 1995, 2000); an understanding of why the theory is structured as it is, and how it

¹ Compulsory, optional

² First, second or third cycle (Bachelor, Master's, Doctoral)

³ ISCED-F 2013 - <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/isced-f-detailed-field-descriptions-en.pdf> (page 54)

⁴ Face-to-face, distance learning, etc.

fits into a broader picture of language and mind; an ability to analyse simple sentences within the theory, and to follow and construct syntactic arguments, and an appreciation of the links between data and theory in syntax and in linguistics more generally.

SYLLABUS (outline and summary of topics)

Core concepts: sentence, utterance, proposition; grammaticality and acceptability; tacit knowledge; syntactic theories. Morphosyntactic features: introducing features; feature systems; interface rules; motivating features; major and minor features.

Constituency and theta roles: identifying constituents; determining the head; predicting the head: theta roles and selectional features; c-selection and s-selection; triggering Merge by feature checking.

Representing phrase structure: the structure of phrases: Merge vs. Adjoin; structural relations: c-command; the case of ditransitives; linking; the architecture of the system.

Introducing functional categories: lexical vs. functional categories; sentences are headed by T; tense-marking; head movement; do-support.

LEARNING AND TEACHING (planned learning activities and teaching methods)

Lectures, problem-based learning, self-study.

REQUIRED READING

David Adger, *Core syntax: A Minimalist approach*, Oxford University Press, 2003

Andrew Carnie, *Syntax*, Blackwell, 2013

Liliane Haegeman and Jacqueline Guéron, *English Grammar: A Generative Perspective*, Blackwell, 1999

Andrew Radford, *Minimalist Syntax: Exploring the Structure of English*, Cambridge University Press, 2004

Mark Baker, "On the structural positions of Themes and Goals". *Studies in Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 33, Springer, 1996, pp. 7-34

Steven Pinker, *The Language Instinct*, Penguin, 1994

Ljiljana Progovac, *A Syntax of Serbian*, Slavica, 2005

ASSESSMENT METHODS AND CRITERIA

Tests (40%), practical classes (10%), written exam (50%).

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English