Course Outline

This course is a continuation of LIN 834, and will cover recent advances in syntactic theory. The main goals of the course are to allow you to read current literature in the field and develop your own syntactic skills. More specifically we will focus on some of the conceptual and technical issues that have been raised in an important series of recent papers by Chomsky. Topics covered will normally be selected from:

- Foundations of Minimalism
- Architectural Issues
- Bare Phrase Structure
- Agree, Move, Interpretability and the Apparent Imperfection Strategy
- Interface Conditions and the Drivers of Movement
- Phonological Movement
- Phases, Locality and Defective Intervention Effects
- Adjunction in Minimalism

By the end of the course you should be able to:

- consult primary minimalist literature with some degree of confidence;
- distinguish analyses that respect the fundamental principles of minimalism from mere manipulations of technology;
- distinguish between principled attempts to solve problems within this framework and those that resort to ad hoc stipulations;
- have an appreciation of a fairly large range of outstanding problems, conceptual and technical.

Evaluation

- 14 Quizzes: 30%
- 1 Critical review of an article: 10%
- In-class presentation of paper in progress: 10%
- Term paper: 50%
Details

**Reading Assignments** The goal of the reading assignments is to encourage you to read carefully and critically. Sometimes the assignment will consist of a summary of a reading or part of a reading, and sometimes a specific question or set of data will be given to be discussed in terms of the reading. These assignments should be no longer than 4 pages with exactly the following format: 1" margins (top/bottom/left/right), Times 12 point, 1 1/2 line spacing. **NOTE:** Reading assignments will generally be circulated by e-mail.

**Term Paper and Critical review of an article:** The term paper and critical review are incorporated into a package. By week 8 you should prepare a 3 page proposal for a term paper plus a bibliography of at least 6 articles relevant to the problem (articles on the course reading list do not count). I will choose one of the articles for you to review critically, or perhaps suggest another relevant article. This will therefore form part of the term paper. The goal of the review is to develop both respect and skepticism for published work. A good review contains an accurate description of the relevant contents of the paper and a discussion of both its strengths and weaknesses. Where weaknesses arise, some idea of alternatives should be suggested.

**NOTE:** A review, in this sense, is to be thought of as like the literature review in a thesis. This means that under no circumstances should your review discuss the writing/organisation/readability etc. of the paper. The paper should develop original ideas and be an attempt to solve a problem that is both descriptively and theoretically relevant. It must show substantial work beyond the article review. The review is due by week 10. From the review you should have formed the basis for the term paper. Weeks 13 and 14 of class will be used to present the term papers in progress. The paper is due the first day of the final exam period (December 8).
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings (subject to changes)</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>31-Aug</td>
<td>Introduction: the plan, overview of GB and PP</td>
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<td>Chomsky Interview with Rizzi and Belletti, revised 2000</td>
<td>RA1</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>7-Sep</td>
<td>Case and theta structure: Speas 1990 Ch1, 2, Williams 1995</td>
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<td>14-Sep</td>
<td>The VP: HNG Ch. 3-4 Hale and Keyser 1993, Pollock 1989</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>More VP: HNG Ch. 4 Larson 1988 Johnson 2001??</td>
<td>RA4</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>28-Sep</td>
<td>Linearization and GB Kayne 1994;</td>
<td>RA5</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>5-Oct</td>
<td>Basic Minimalism HNG Ch. 1-2, Chomsky 1993 = MP Reinhart and Siloni 2005</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>12-Oct</td>
<td>Why X-bar? Chomsky 1995 HNG Ch. 6</td>
<td>RA7 Paper Proposal</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>19-Oct</td>
<td>Passive Collins 2005</td>
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<td>26-Oct</td>
<td>Raising/Control Landau Hornstein</td>
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<td>2-Nov</td>
<td>Head Movement</td>
<td>RA10 Article review</td>
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<td>9-Nov</td>
<td>Minimality: HNG Ch. 5</td>
<td>RA11</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>16-Nov</td>
<td>HNG Ch. 9 Chomsky 1995 (Ch. 4) Landau 2004</td>
<td>RA12</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>23-Nov</td>
<td>Bobaljik 2005 Bobaljik and Wurbrand 2004</td>
<td>RA13 Presentations</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>30-Nov</td>
<td>HNG Ch. 10 Lasnik 2005, Boskovic 2005b</td>
<td>RA14</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>8-Dec</td>
<td>Data and theoretical linguistics</td>
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<td>Minimalism and language variation and change</td>
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<td>Summary</td>
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<td>Adger and Smith 2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>15-Dec</td>
<td>Lingua 115(11) Data in theoretical linguistics 2005</td>
<td>Papers due</td>
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</tbody>
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*MP = Minimalist Program; HNG = Hornstein, Nunes and Grohmann

**Reading list (subject to modification)**

**Adger and Ramchand 2005**

**Adger and Smith 2004**
Adger, D and Smith, J. 2004. Variation and the Minimalist Program. Ms

**Boeckx & Hornstein 2005**

**Bobaljik,**

**Boskovic, Zeljko. 2002**

**Boskovic, Zeljko 2004**
Boskovic, Zeljko. 2004a Case checking vs. case assignment and the case of adverbial NPs [ms., University of Connecticut]
Boskovic, Zeljko. 2004b Case and agreement with genitive of quantification in Russian [ms., University of Connecticut]


**Chomsky (1993)**

**Chomsky (1995)**

**Chomsky (2000)**

Chomsky (2001)

Chomsky (2005)

Epstein (1999)

Fox (2002)

Hale and Keyser (2002)

Hauser et al. (2002)

Hornstein (1999)

Hornstein et al.(to appear)

Kayne (1994)

Lasnik (1999)

Landau (2004)
McGinnis, Martha. MWPL49.
Reinhart, Tanya & Siloni, Tal 2005 The Lexicon-Syntax Parameter: Reflexivization and Other Arity Operations
Linguistic Inquiry, Volume 36: 389-436(48)
Chomsky Noam, 2000a The Architecture of Language, New Delhi: Oxford University Press
Hornstein, Norbert, Kleanthes Grohman, and Jairo Nunes. 2003 Understanding Minimalism: an Introduction to Minimalist Syntax (=HNG)
Uriagereka, Juan. 2005