

**LIN 835****Syntactic Theory II****Fall 2005**

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Wells C101  
W 3:00-6:00  
Office hours: M 9:20-10:15, W 9:20-10:15  
and by appointment

**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).

Week	Date	Readings (subject to changes)	Due Dates
1	31st-Aug	Introduction: the plan, overview of GB and PP	
2	7-Sep	Chomsky Interview with Rizzi and Belletti, revised 2000 Case and theta structure: Speas 1990 Ch1, 2, Williams 1995	RA1
3	14-Sep	The VP: HNG Ch. 3-4 Hale and Keyser 1993, Pollock 1989	RA2
4	21-Sep	More VP: HNG Ch. 4 Larson 1988 Johnson 2001??	RA3
5	28-Sep	Linearization and GB Kayne 1994;	RA4
6	5-Oct	Basic Minimalism HNG Ch. 1-2, Chomsky 1993 = MP Reinhart and Siloni 2005	RA5
7	12-Oct	Why X-bar? Chomsky 1995 HNG Ch. 6	RA6
8	19-Oct	Passive Collins 2005	RA7 Paper Proposal
9	26-Oct	Raising/Control Landau Hornstein	RA8
10	2-Nov	Head Movement , Minimality: HNG Ch. 5	RA9
11	9-Nov	Adger & Ramchand 2004, Boskovic 2002, 2005HNG Ch. 8, Hornstein 1999, Kennedy 1997	RA10Article review
12	16-Nov	HNG Ch. 9 Chomsky 1995 (Ch. 4) Landau 2004	RA11
13	23-Nov	Bobaljik 2005 Bobaljik and Wurbrand 2004	RA12
14	30-Nov	HNG Ch. 10 Lasnik 2005, Boskovic 2005b Data and theoretical linguistics	RA13 Presentations
15	8-Dec	Minimalism and language variation and change Summary Adger and Smith 2004	RA14
16	15-Dec	Lingua 115(11) Data in theoretical linguistics 2005	Papers due

\*MP = *Minimalist Program*; HNG = Hornstein, Nunes and Grohmann

**Reading list (subject to modification)**

ADGER AND RAMCHAND 2005

Adger, David & Gillian Ramchand. 2005. Merge and Move: Wh-dependencies revisited. *Linguistic Inquiry* 36: 161-194

ADGER AND SMITH 2004

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

BOECKX & HORNSTEIN 2005

Boeckx, Cedric & Norbert Hornstein On eliminating D-structure. The case of binomial each. *Syntax* 8:1, April 2005, 23–43

Bobaljik,

Boskovic, Zejlko. 2002

Boskovic, Zejlko. 2002. 'On multiple wh-fronting', *Linguistic Inquiry* 33, 351-383.

Boskovic, Zejlko 2004

Boskovic, Zejlko 2004a Case checking vs. case assignment and the case of adverbial NPs

[ms., University of Connecticut]

Boskovic, Zejlko 2004b Case and agreement with genitive of quantification in Russian

[ms., University of Connecticut]

Boskovic, Zejlko. 2005a. 'Topicalization, focalization, lexical insertion, and scrambling', *Linguistic Inquiry*.

Boskovic, Zejlko. 2005b On the Locality of Move and Agree: Eliminating the Activation Condition, Generalized ÉPP, Inverse Case Filter, and Phase-Impenetrability Condition

[to appear in University of Connecticut Occasional Papers 3]

Chomsky (1993)

Noam Chomsky. A minimalist program for linguistic theory. In Kenneth Hale and Samuel Jay Keyser, editors, *The View From Building 20*, pages 1--52. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1993.

Chomsky (1995)

Noam Chomsky. *The Minimalist Program*. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1995.

Chomsky (2000)

Noam Chomsky. Minimalist inquiries: the framework. In Roger Martin, David Michaels, and Juan Uriagereka, editors, *Step by Step*, pages 89--155. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 2000.

Chomsky (2001)

Noam Chomsky. Derivation by phase. In Michael Kenstowicz, editor, *Ken Hale: A Life in Language*, pages 1--52. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 2001.

Chomsky (2005)

Noam Chomsky. Three factors in Language design. *Linguistic Inquiry* 36:1-22, 2005

Epstein (1999)

Samuel David Epstein. Un-principled syntax: the derivation of syntactic relations. In Samuel David Epstein and Norbert Hornstein, editors, *Working Minimalism*, pages 317--345. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1999.

Fox (2002)

Danny Fox. Antecedent-contained deletion and the copy theory of movement. *Linguistic Inquiry*, 33:0 63--96, 2002.

Hale and Keyser (2002)

Kenneth Hale and Samuel J Keyser. *Prolegomenon to a Theory of Argument Structure*. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 2002.

Hauser et al. (2002)

Marc Hauser, Noam Chomsky, and W. Tecumseh Fitch. The faculty of language: What is it, who has it, and how did it evolve? *Science*, 298(5598):0 1569--1579, 2002.

Hornstein (1999)

Norbert Hornstein. Minimalism and quantifier raising. In Samuel David Epstein and Norbert Hornstein, editors, *Working Minimalism*, pages 45--76. MIT Press, 1999.

Hornstein et al.(to appear)

Norbert Hornstein, Jairo Nunes, and Kleanthes K Grohmann. *Understanding Minimalism: an Introduction to Minimalist Syntax*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, to appear.

Kayne (1994)

Richard S. Kayne. *The Antisymmetry of Syntax*. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1994.

Lasnik (1999)

Howard Lasnik. *Minimalist Analysis*. Blackwell, Malden, Mass., 1999.

Landau (2004)

The Scale of Finiteness and the Calculus of Control. 2004. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 22, 811-877.

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. 1991. Some notes on economy of derivations and representation. in R. Frieden (ed.) *Principles and Parameters in Comparative Syntax*. MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass.

Chomsky, Noam. 1993. A minimalist program for linguistic theory. in K. Hale and S. J. Keyser (eds.) *The View from Building 20*. MIT Press, Cambridge Mass.

Chomsky, Noam. 1995. *The Minimalist Program*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press. (=MP)

Chomsky Noam, 2000a *The Architecture of Language*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press

Chomsky, Noam, 2000b Minimalist Inquiries: The Framework. In R. Martin, D. Michaels and J. Uriagereka (eds.) *Step by Step*, pp. 89-155, Cambridge Mass.: MIT Press

Chomsky, Noam. 2001a Derivation by Phase. In M. Kenstowicz (ed.) *Ken Hale: a life in language*, pp. 1-52, Cambridge Mass: MIT Press

Chomsky 2001b Beyond explanatory adequacy. MIT Occasional Papers in Linguistics #20.

Chomsky, Noam and Howard Lasnik 1993. The theory of principles and parameters. In J. Jacobs, A. von Stechow, W. Sternefeld and T. Vennemann (eds.) *Syntax: An International Handbook of Contemporary Research*. Berlin, Walter de Gruyter.

Epstein, Samuel David 1999. Un-principled syntax: the derivation of syntactic relations. In S. Epstein and N. Hornstein (eds.) *Working Minimalism* pp.317-345, Cambridge Mass.: MIT Press.

Fox, Danny 1995. Economy and Scope. *Natural Language Semantics* 3, 283-341.

Hornstein, Norbert. 1999a. Quantifier raising and minimalism. In S. Epstein and N. Hornstein (eds.) *Working Minimalism* pp.45-75, Cambridge Mass.: MIT Press.

Hornstein, Norbert. 1999b. Movement and control. *Linguistic Inquiry* 30, 69-96

Hornstein, Norbert, Kleanthes Grohman, and Jairo Nunes. 2003 *Understanding Minimalism: an Introduction to Minimalist Syntax* (=HNG)

Kayne, Richard *The Antisymmetry of Syntax*, Cambridge Mass: MIT Press.

Kennedy, Chris. 1997. Antecedent contained deletion and the syntax of quantification. *Linguistic Inquiry* 28, 662-668.

Nunes, Jairo 2001. Sideward Movement. *Linguistic Inquiry* 32, 303-344

Uriagereka, Juan (1999) Multiple Spell-out. In S. Epstein and N. Hornstein (eds.) *Working Minimalism* pp.251-282, Cambridge Mass.: MIT Press.

Uriagereka, Juan. 2005