LING3350: Structure of English
Callaghan and Online
Semester 1 - 2024

The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which all cultures are accorded respect and all students and staff are expected to act with honesty, fairness, trustworthiness and accountability in dealings with others. The School recognises and respects the unique histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia, and the validity of Aboriginal ways of knowing. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education.

OVERVIEW

Course Description   Provides the grammatical knowledge necessary for a descriptive analysis of the structure of contemporary English, from the level of word class through phrase structure analysis to the description of complex sentence patterns. On completion of the course students should be able to provide a grammatical analysis of English sentential structure.

Academic Progress Requirements   Nil

Assumed Knowledge   LING1110, LING1100, LING1111 or equivalent knowledge of introductory linguistics.

Contact Hours   **Callaghan**
Lecture
Face to Face On Campus
2 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) starting Week 1

Online
Lecture
Online
2 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) starting Week 1

Unit Weighting   10

Workload   Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator

Callaghan and Online
Dr Jayden Macklin-Cordes
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(02) 4055 0755
Consultation: Mondays 15:00 - 16:00 (subject to change, check Canvas for details)

Teaching Staff

Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.

School Office

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SYLLABUS

Course Content

A descriptive analysis of the structure of contemporary English. Topics covered will be selected from the following:
• formal criteria for word class identification
• properties of phrasal structure
• analysis of simple clause structures
• major grammatical categories of the verb: tense, aspect, voice
• grammatical relations
• finite and non-finite subordinate clauses
• interrogative structures

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Describe grammatical terminology and levels of grammatical analysis.

2. Explain key grammatical concepts, such as syntactic constituent and embedding of syntactic structure.

3. Examine sentences in terms of word classes, phrase structure, grammatical relations.

4. Apply grammatical knowledge to the analysis of English sentential structure.

5. Apply your knowledge of the research process to contribute to a research project

Course Materials

Lecture Materials:

Lecture notes and Powerpoint slides will be provided each week through the Canvas site for the course.

Recommended resources:
Crystal, D. (1996). *Rediscover grammar.* Longman.

Katamba, F., O'Grady, W., Archibald, J. (2011). *Contemporary linguistics: An introduction* (2nd ed.). Longman.

Other resources will also be posted on the Canvas course website.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Word classes: Content (lexical) versus function (grammatical) categories	
2	4 Mar	Phrase structure basics	
3	11 Mar	Phrase structure: Noun phrases (NP), adjective phrases (AP), and prepositional phrases (PP)	
4	18 Mar	Syntactic functions of function words	
5	25 Mar	Verbs: The masters of sentences	Assignment 1 (20%): NP, AP and PP. Due: 23:59, Thursday, 28 March 2024
6	1 Apr	The structure of verb phrases (VP)	
7	8 Apr	Auxiliaries and verbal contrasts: Mood, modality, tense, and aspect	
		Mid-Semester Recess	
		Mid-Semester Recess	
8	29 Apr	Sentences and clauses: Types and structure	Assignment 2 (20%): Verbs and the VP. Due: 23:59, Friday, 3 May 2024
9	6 May	The complementiser phrase (CP)	
10	13 May	The structure of complex sentences I: Complement clauses	
11	20 May	The structure of complex sentences II: Relative and adverbial clauses	
12	27 May	Revision: The structure of phrases and sentences	Assignment 3 (20%): Phrase functions, subordinate clauses, S and CP. Due: 23:59, Friday, 31 May 2024
13	3 Jun	Exam preparation — self-directed study (no lecture)	Research Participation (5%) due: 23:59, Friday, 7 June 2024
		Examination Period	Formal examination (35%, online, open book). Covers all course content. Exact date TBA.
		Examination Period	

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 5 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Written Assignment 1	23:59, Thursday, 28 March 2024	Individual	20%	1, 2
2	Written Assignment 2	23:59, Friday, 3 May 2024	Individual	20%	1, 2, 3, 4
3	Written Assignment 3	23:59, Friday, 31 May 2024	Individual	20%	1, 2, 3, 4
4	Formal exam - open book examination	During Examination Period: 11–22 June 2024. The exact date will be announced by the exams office later in the semester	Individual	35%	1, 2, 3
5	Research Participation	23:59, Friday, 7 June 2024.	Individual	5%	5

Late Submissions   The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Written Assignment 1

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Purpose	Tests the understanding of phrase structure (NP, AP, PP) and phrase structure rules
Description	Problem sets involving four types of tasks: 1) identifying phrases in sentences; 2) drawing tree diagrams for selected phrases; and 3) writing phrase structure rules
Weighting	20%
Length	Short linguistic problem sets (equivalent to around 800 words total)
Due Date	23:59, Thursday, 28 March 2024
Submission Method	Online via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	Questions typically have a single correct answer. Full marks are awarded for fully correct answers. Part marks are awarded for partially correct answers showing partial understanding, according to objective marking criteria (detailed in answers guide on Canvas site).
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - A detailed answer guide to the assignment will be posted after all assignment submissions have been marked. Individualised feedback will be available on request.

Assessment 2 - Written Assignment 2

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Purpose	Tests knowledge of Verb Phrases (VP) and the associated grammatical categories.
Description	Problem sets involving five types of tasks: 1) identifying types of main verb in sentences; 2) identifying grammatical categories such as tense, aspect and voice; 3) identifying grammatical functions; 4) writing phrase structure rules for VPs; and 5) drawing tree diagrams of VPs.
Weighting	20%
Length	Short linguistic problem sets (equivalent to around 800 words total)
Due Date	23:59, Friday, 3 May 2024
Submission Method	Online via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	Questions typically have a single correct answer. Full marks are awarded for fully correct answers. Part marks are awarded for partially correct answers showing partial understanding, according to objective marking criteria (detailed in answers guide on Canvas site).
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - A detailed answer guide to the assignment will be posted after all assignment submissions have been marked. Individualised feedback will be available on request.

Assessment 3 - Written Assignment 3

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Purpose	Tests understanding of clause boundaries, structural ambiguity, grammatical functions and subordination.
Description	Problem sets involving four types of tasks: 1) identifying possible antecedents of pronouns 2) identifying the grammatical functions of phrases; 3) identifying types of subordinate clauses; 4) drawing tree diagrams of structurally ambiguous and complex sentences.
Weighting	20%
Length	Short linguistic problem sets (equivalent to around 800 words total)
Due Date	23:59, Friday, 31 May 2024
Submission Method	Online via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	Questions typically have a single correct answer. Full marks are awarded for fully correct answers. Part marks are awarded for partially correct answers showing partial understanding, according to objective marking criteria (detailed in answers guide on Canvas site).
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - A detailed answer guide to the assignment will be posted after all assignment submissions have been marked. Individualised feedback will be available on request.

Assessment 4 - Formal Exam - Open Book Examination

Assessment Type	Online Open Book Formal Examination
Purpose	Tests knowledge of type, structure and function of phrases and clauses; tense, aspect, voice; grammatical functions; phrase structure rules; syntactic trees.
Description	Open-book exam conducted online via Canvas. Problem sets similar to the sets in the assignments — problems cover all areas of the course content
Weighting	35%
Length	120 min + 10 min reading time
Due Date	During Examination Period: 11–22 June 2024. The exact date will be announced by the exams office later in the semester
Submission Method	Formal Exam
Assessment Criteria	Questions typically have a single correct answer. Full marks are awarded for fully correct answers. Part marks are awarded for partially correct answers showing partial understanding, according to objective marking criteria (detailed in answers guide).
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	No Feedback

Assessment 5 - Research Participation

Assessment Type	Participation
Purpose	Contribute to a linguistic research project by applying knowledge of the scientific research process
Description	Choose between three options: 1) Choose from list of available research projects, participate as a study participant, submit a Research Participation Report. 2) Choose from list of available research tasks, complete the research task, submit a Research Task Report. 3) Choose a talk from the list of talks for the Linguistics Seminar Series, attend talk and submit a Talk Summary. Available research projects, tasks and talks will be listed on Canvas by the end of week 2 of semester.
Weighting	5%
Length	1 hour (approx.)
Due Date	23:59, Friday, 7 June 2024.
Submission Method	Online via Canvas
Assessment Criteria	Research participation/task completion/seminar attendance will be verified via submission of a Research Participation Report, Research Task Report, or Talk Summary (see assessment description). Once participation/task completion/seminar attendance has been verified, 5% credit will be awarded.
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	No Feedback

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and

	(P)	understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:
- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.
As a result of student feedback, the following changes have been made to this offering of the course:
- Changes to pacing of lecture content (particularly later lectures). Greater focus on in-class exercises.

Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the Oral Examination (viva) Procedure. In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the Student Conduct Rule.

Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35 .

Adverse Circumstances

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:
1.	the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2.	the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
3.	you are requesting a change of placement; or
4.	the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.
Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:
https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236

Important Policy Information

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.