

# Terms and Concepts in Literary and Linguistic Studies

BTAN1003MA

5-credit lecture course

Fall 2021

## Course Description

This course is concerned with syntactic theory and its primary goal is to provide students with the tools necessary to analyze various grammatical phenomena within the framework of Minimalism. Topics to be covered include categories and features, the Merge operation, Theta Theory, Case Theory, agreement and movement/Remerge. Although our main focus is the grammar of English, we will also look at data from other languages for cross-linguistic comparison.

## Textbook

Koenenman, Olaf & Hedde Zeijlstra. 2017. *Introducing Syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

## Grading

The final grade will be based on a midterm test and an endterm test. Grades on the midterm test will carry a weight of 40% of the final grade, whereas grades on the endterm test will carry a weight of 60%.

The grading scale in this course will be as follows:

91% - 100% - 5

81% - 90% - 4

71% - 80% - 3

61% - 70% - 2

0% - 60% - 1

## Attendance

No more than three absences are allowed, illness included.

## Weekly Syllabus

<b>Week#</b>	<b>Class content</b>	<b>Reading assignments</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	The Language Machine Categories and Features	pp. 1-29
<b>Week 2</b>	Merge	pp. 30-53
<b>Week 3</b>	Problem Sets	

<b>Week 4</b>	Theta Theory	pp. 54-77
<b>Week 5</b>	Case Theory	pp. 78-109
<b>Week 6</b>	Review	
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>Midterm Test</b> Agreement and Uninterpretable Features 1	
<b>Week 8</b>	Agreement and Uninterpretable Features 2	pp. 110-137
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Fall break</b>	There will be no class meetings during Week 9.
<b>Week 10</b>	Movement and Remerge 1	pp. 138-163
<b>Week 11</b>	Movement and Remerge 2	
<b>Week 12</b>	Unifying Movement and Agreement 1	pp. 164-193
<b>Week 13</b>	Unifying Movement and Agreement 2  Review	
<b>Week 14</b>	<b>Endterm Test</b>	

### **Place and Time**

Room 55

4:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. on Wednesdays (15-min break at 5:30 p.m.)

### **Contact**

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