

Dr. habil Tóthné Litovkina Anna, PhD.

Syntax

Lecture and seminar

Code: SYNT

Academic year: 2022/2023

Year: 3.

Assessment: continuous testing, seminar work, written exam (or in case of online classes and exams, oral exam)

Syllabus

Divided into 13 weeks:

Lecture

1. Introduction
2. Word classes/Categories and functions
3. Verbs and their subcategorisation
4. Grammatical functions
5. Constituency, function, category; head, complements, and modifiers
6. Phrases
7. Phrases
8. Elements of sentence constructions/ Clauses and sentences; Main and subordinate clauses
9. Phrase Structure rules; Cleft constructions
10. Relative clause constructions /pro-form; deixis vs. anaphora
11. Reported speech/Passive constructions
12. Wh-questions/Interrogative clauses
13. Summary; Final exam review

Seminar

1. Descriptive and prescriptive grammar
2. Word classes/Categories and functions
3. Mood, aspect, tense, voice
4. Subjects, direct and indirect objects, predicative compliments, oblique compliments, modifiers, adjuncts
5. Tests for determining syntactic constituenthood
6. NP, VP,
7. AdjP, AdvP, PP
8. Tree diagram terminology (node, branch, dominate, sister). Tree diagrams as representations of structure
9. Tree diagrams
10. *Test*
11. Reported speech/Passive constructions

12. Wh-questions/Interrogative clauses
13. Summary; Final exam review

Compulsory reading (excerpts)

- Biber – Conrad – Leech: *Longman Student Grammar of Spoken and Written English*, Longman, 2002.
- Kim, Jong-Bok and Peter Sells: *English Syntax: An Introduction*, Center for the Study of Language and Information, 2008.
- Kuiper, Kon – W. Scott Allan: *Introduction to English language: Word, sound and sentence*. 3rd edition, Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.
- T. Litovkina, Anna - Szilvia N. Varagya: *Lecture Notes on Syntax*, J. Selye University Faculty of Education, Komarno, 2022.
- Miller, Jim: *An Introduction to English Syntax*, Edinburgh University Press, 2008.
- Newson, Mark et al.: *Basic English Syntax with Exercises - Bölcsész Konzílium Bölcsész Index Centrál Könyvek*, 2006.

Supplementary reading (excerpts)

- Budai, L.: *English Phrasal and Clausal Syntax. (Synopsises of Thirty Lectures)*. Veszprém: Veszprém University Press, 1997.
- Budai, L.: *English Phrasal and Clausal Syntax. Workbook*. Veszprém: Veszprém University Press, 2003.
- Burton-Roberts, N.: *Analysing Sentences: An Introduction to English Syntax*. London: Longman, 1986.
- Carnie, Andrew: *Modern Syntax: A Coursebook*, Cambridge University Press, 2011.
- Hardošová, M.: *Morfosyntax anglického jazyka. Cvičebnica*. Banská Bystrica: Univerzita Mateja Bela, 1999.
- Radford, Andrew: *English Syntax: An Introduction*, Cambridge University Press, 2004
- Radford, Andrew: *An Introduction to English Sentence Structure*, Cambridge University Press, 2009
- Radford, Andrew: *Analysing English Sentences: A Minimalist Approach*, Cambridge University Press, 2009
- Rafajlovičová, R.: *A Survey of the English Syntax*. Prešov: Prešovská Univerzita, 2004.

Assessment

Course grade will be based on the following work (percentages are approximate):

1. Mid-test test 40%
2. Final written (or oral) exam 40%
3. Homework and classroom participation 20%

Final exam: The final exam will consist primarily of data analysis problems of the types we will have covered throughout the course.

Attendance

Students will be permitted two unexplained absences. Students must arrive on time to be counted as in attendance. It is your responsibility to stay current and find out what you missed if you were absent.

Grading Scale

0-49% (Fx)

50-59% (E)

60-69% (D)

70-79% (C)

80-89% (B)

90-100% (A)