

Syntax Seminar

BBN-ANG-252

Instructor: Irina Burukina

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When & where:

group j Tuesday 08:30–10:00, R327, DELG

group i Tuesday 10:00–11:30, R326, DELG

1 Overview

The course aims to introduce students to basic concepts of syntax and the main principles of syntactic analysis. Considering data from English and other languages, we will discuss such topics as constituency, hierarchical structure, X-bar syntax, clausal syntax, and syntax of nominal phrases. In addition to this course, students are advised to also attend the Syntax lecture (BBN-ANG-251).

2 Schedule

This is a preliminary schedule of the course. Changes to it will be announced in class in advance.

For each class there is a handout and (occasionally) videos. Reading BESE is obligatory, reading Carnie is recommended.

Date	Topic	Materials
13/02	Overview. Grammar and rules. Categories and phrases.	BESE 1.1 – 1.3.1
20/02	Constituents I	BESE 1.1 – 1.3.1
27/02	Constituents II	BESE 1.1 – 1.3.1
05/03	X-bar structure. VP. Adjuncts. UTAH	BESE 3, 5
12/03	S-selection. Thematic structure I	BESE 1.3, 2.1, 2.2
19/03	S-selection. Thematic structure II	BESE 1.3, 2.1, 2.2
26/03	vP. External arguments + mid-term test handed (non-grade)	BESE 3, 5
02/04	Spring break (no class)	
09/04	VP/vP practice	
16/04	Licensing. Cases	BESE 5, 6
23/04	IP (TP)	BESE 6
30/04	CP (embedded)	BESE 7
07/05	CP (non-embedded)	BESE 7
14/05	Final in-class test	

3 Readings

Obligatory

Mark Newson et al, *Basic English Syntax with Exercises*, Budapest, 2006 (BESE)

Recommended

Andrew Carnie, *Syntax: A Generative Introduction*, 2013 (3d ed.)

Additional resources

Generative Syntax with Prof Caroline Heycock. Youtube mini-lectures

Syntax for dummies. How to read (and draw) syntactic trees. A short guide by Roberta D'Alessandro.
<https://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/004774>

4 Where to find the course

The **course materials** will be uploaded to the website:

<http://seas3.elte.hu/coursematerial/BurukinaIrina/index.html>

5 Requirements

One **final in-class written exam** for a grade.

The exam will consist of the tasks very similar to those in the non-grade home assignments and the non-grade mid-term exam. Those who do not write the final exam will not pass the course.

During the semester, I will regularly upload extra exercises to the SEAS website. There will also be a mid-term exam, similar to the final one. The mid-term exam is **not** for a grade, but those who do not submit it **in time** will **not** be allowed to write the final exam. I will upload the answers to the mid-term exam shortly after the deadline, and we can discuss your questions in class or via email.

! Please, read selected chapters from BESE **before** each class. This will allow us to focus on the most difficult aspects of the theory and to practice more during our meetings.

6 Other

Dr. Irina Burukina. Contact e-mail address: irina.burukina@btk.elte.hu

Please, use only this email address to send me emails. Do not forget to add your name and indicate your group. If you have any questions, I will be happy to meet with you. Please, send me an email in advance to schedule an appointment; we can meet either at ELTE or via Zoom.