UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

Linguistics 599.02
Advanced Topics in Linguistic Studies: Syntax
Fall 2022
TR 14:00 - 15:15 – CHD 419

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dennis Ryan Storoshenko

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 11:30 to 12:30 in CHD 509 or by appointment (in person or zoom)

E-MAIL: dstorosh@ucalgary.ca (Generally you can expect a response by the next weekday)

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 403-220-6119

DESCRIPTION
This course will provide students with an introduction to Tree Adjoining Grammar (TAG), and its variations, as an alternative to the model of the Syntax/Semantics interface presented in LING 301, 401, 511. Through this, students will also gain an appreciation for the relationship between formal syntax and mathematical formalisms, which was at the core of the Chomskyan shift in the 1950s and 60s, but later waned in influence over the field. Via TAG, students explore linguistic phenomena common in syntax classes, but through a lens in which the computational considerations retain their original influence.

OBJECTIVES
- Familiarize students with the computational roots of syntax more generally, and how these are retained in TAG
- Present phenomena familiar from earlier syntax courses, showing how alternative analyses are possible (and sometimes necessitated by a more rigorous framework)
- Specifically explore Synchronous Tree Adjoining Grammar (STAG) as a model of how syntactic and semantic representations of a sentence are derived in parallel

OUTCOMES
- Students will have a deeper knowledge of the early history of syntax, and an appreciation for how current mainstream theory diverges from the TAG model
- Through the exploration of familiar problems, students will gain experience in critically assessing the virtues of different analyses
- The study of STAG will give students a basic working knowledge of the lambda calculus formalism for representing truth-conditional meaning
- Students will gain experience in presenting their own work through an original TAG-based analysis, as well as presenting the work of other scholars through a class report on a selected reading

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

All course readings will be linked to D2L. Students will need a reliable and up-to-date web browser with protection against malware. Online LaTeX editor Overleaf may be used for some assignments and the final paper, no purchase will be necessary, but students who do not already have one should create a free account at www.overleaf.com.

COURSE NOTES

- All sessions will meet in person in CHD 419, no synchronous online streaming will be available, no recordings will be made (unless the university makes a sudden modality switch, in which case we

will move to synchronous zoom).
- Class handouts will be made available online shortly before class, students may want to bring a laptop/tablet for .pdf annotation during class. Please stay on task, and avoid extraneous internet use.
- As all meetings are on Tuesdays and Thursdays, we are not impacted by any statutory holidays. The first lecture is Tues Sept 6, the last is Tues Dec 6, and we do not meet on Nov 8 or Nov 10 (reading break)
- All course materials (problem sets, readings, instructions for the term paper) will be on D2L. Students should check this early and often.
- Attendance will not be taken, and there is no formal need to explain an occasional absence. Systematic absences without discussion with the instructor may impact your Participation grade; this is a small enough class that it will be clear who is missing from day to day.
- If you miss one of your presentation days, contact the instructor as soon as possible to work out alternate methods of presentation and assessment.
- Course evaluations will be online in D2L

ASSESSMENT

Problem Sets (4 x 7.5% = 30%)
Four problem sets will evaluate student's ability to apply the concepts covered in class and extend them to new data. Problem sets will be distributed online after class on each Thursday a week before they are due, and should be submitted by D2L dropbox. Please speak to the instructor early if you anticipate needing an extension for any reason, or as soon as possible after an unforeseen event delays submission. Anticipated due dates are Sept 29, Oct 13, Oct 27, Nov 24.

Paper Proposal (5%)
An early one page description of the problem you intend to tackle in your term paper, including example data to be covered. Proposals are opportunities for feedback that may shift the direction of a project and will not be considered binding. Submit by D2L dropbox. Please speak to the instructor early if you anticipate needing an extension for any reason, or as soon as possible after an unforeseen event delays submission. Due date Nov 17.

Reading Presentation (10%)
Students select one paper from the selected list of papers available for presentation and give an approximately 10min in class summary of the ideas and analysis of the paper. Students should be prepared to answer questions on the paper for approximately 5min. Students may choose handouts, slides, or other media for their presentations. Evaluation will be on the accuracy of the presentation of the paper's ideas, and quality of presentation materials. Presentations will be in class Nov 29 and Dec 1.

Paper Presentation (10%)
Students should prepare a 3-5min lighting talk presentation of their paper topic introducing the key data and a snapshot of the analysis. Modality is up to the student, evaluation will be on clarity of the presentation, and ability to stay within time. All presentations must fit into class on Dec 6.

Final Paper (35%)
Students will prepare a paper presenting an original TAG (or related formalism) analysis of a syntactic phenomenon of their choice. This can include updating or expanding something from existing literature with new data, or can be based on syntactic data that has never been applied to TAG from any natural language. Alternate proposals leaning more toward computational science are possible, please talk to the instructor. Papers must fit the formatting, template, and maximum page length for the 2010 TAG+ workshop (the last to use North American paper sizes). Details and templates will be made available through D2L for Word, and Overleaf for LaTeX. Projected due date is Dec 14th.

Participation (10%)
As noted above, formal attendance will not be taken, but in this small a group, systematic absence will be noted and could impact the participation grade unless you have reasons to be absent discussed with the

instructor. Otherwise, students are expected to come to class with the readings completed and to be able to contribute to the class discussion. This will also include supporting classmates by asking questions during their presentations.

GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100-97 A = 93-96 A- = 92-88 B+ = 87-83 B = 82-78 B- = 77-73 C+ = 72-68 C = 67-63
C- = 62-58 D+ = 57-53 D = 52-50 F = 49%

Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number (.01 to .49) rounds down, (.50 to .99) rounds up.

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT
All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html).

Academic misconduct
Academic Misconduct refers to student behaviour which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:
https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION
Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy) and requirements of the Copyright Act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT
Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy
for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS
It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at:
https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations .

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students

with Disabilities:
https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES
Have a question, but not sure where to start?
The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:
· Program advising
· Co-op Education Program
· Arts and Science Honours Academy
· Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102
Phone: 403-220-3580
Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca
Website: https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Tower.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES
Devices such as laptops and tablets are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

THIRVE PRIORITY SUPPORT NETWORK
By default, courses using the D2L gradebook are part of the Thrive Priority Support Network. For students in their second and later years, this means their grades in progress are monitored for significant deviations from their prior performance. This automated monitoring may trigger an email from the Student Success Centre. These messages are an offer of support, part of the Campus Mental Health Strategy. More information about Thrive can be found here: https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/thrive

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES
Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines.