

LING 599: THE SYNTAX AND SEMANTICS OF NOMINAL NUMBER

Time: Wednesday 9:30-12
Room: SS816
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This is a survey course aimed to introduce students to syntactic and semantic issues in the analysis of nominal number. Topics covered will include the mass/count distinction, plurality, classifiers and numerals.

PREREQUISITE

Students should have some background in syntax and semantics, including at least LING 301 and LING 319, and an advanced course in either area.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Copies of articles will be posted on Course Blackboard site

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK

Corbett, Greville. 2000. *Number*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Assignments (2)	20%	to be determined
1 Presentation of Literature	20%	to be determined
Paper Proposal	5%	October 22, 2008
Presentation of Course Paper	10%	December 3, 2008
Final Paper	35%	December 17, 2008

ABSENCE AND LATE WORK

It is your responsibility to attend class and complete assignments on time. All assignments, are to be handed in by 4pm on the designated due date. Extensions may be granted if students produce a documented valid excuse before the deadline. Valid excuses are birth, death, marriage, and serious illness or injury. Otherwise, **10% will be deducted from late work every 24 hours (or part thereof) after the deadline.**

GRADING SCHEDULE

A+	98-100	B+	83-87	C+	68-72	D+	53-57
A	93-97	B	78-82	C	63-67	D	50-52
A-	88-92	B-	73-77	C-	58-62	F	0-49

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

1. the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
2. parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
3. the whole work (e.g. an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
4. a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Students are encouraged to work together in preparing homework assignments. However, unless noted otherwise in writing, students must write up their own answers for submission of the assignment. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Possible penalties for plagiarism include: failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion.

Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of plagiarism is also guilty of academic misconduct.

Students should be familiar with the content of pages 53-56 of the University Calendar which deal with student misconduct. Any misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will be dealt with immediately in accordance with actions specified in the University Calendar. This information is also available on the web version of the Calendar:
http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/How/How_LB.htm

TENTATIVE PROJECTED SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading
Sept. 10th	Overview of course Introduction to syntax & semantics of nominal number	
Sept. 17th	The status of bare nominal arguments: Implications for the count/mass distinction, classifiers and plural marking	Chierchia
Sept. 24th		
Oct. 1st	Responses to Chierchia I: Languages with classifiers and plural marking	Chung, Li
Oct. 8th	Responses to Chierchia II: Bare nouns and classifiers in Chinese	Cheng & Sybesma
Oct. 15th	Responses to Chierchia III: A syntactic treatment of differences in properties of bare nouns in languages with and without plural marking	Deprez
Oct. 22nd	A structural approach to the count-mass distinction	Borer
Oct. 29th	The count-mass distinction in De'ne Su' hne	Wilhelm
Nov. 5th	Plural marking in Halkomelem	Wiltschko
Nov. 12th	Student Presentations	
Nov. 19th	Typology of Number Distinctions	Corbett
Nov. 26th	General Number	Rullmann & You
Dec. 3rd	Student Presentations	

References

- Borer, Hagit. 2005. *Structuring Sense. Volume 1: In Name Only*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 4.1-4.3
- Cheng, Lisa, and Rint Sybesma. 1999. Bare and not-so-bare nouns and the structure of NP. *Linguistic Inquiry* 30:4, 509-542.
- Chierchia, Gennaro. 1998. Reference to kinds across languages. *Natural Language Semantics* 6, 339-405.
- Chung, Sandra. 2000. On reference to kinds in Indonesian. *Natural Language Semantics* 8, 157-171.
- Corbett, Greville. 2000. *Number*. Cambridge/New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 2: Meaning Distinctions. pp.9-53.
- Deprez, Viviane. 2004. Morphological number, semantic number and bare nouns. *Lingua* 115.6: 857-883.
- Li, Yen-Hui Audrey. 1999. Plurality in a classifier language. *Journal of East Asian Linguistics* 8, 75-99.
- Rullmann, Hotze and Aili You. 2003. General Number and the Semantics and Pragmatics of Indefinite Bare Nouns in Mandarin Chinese. Ms. University of Calgary.
- Wilhelm, Andrea. 2008. Bare nouns and number in De'ne Su' hne'. *Natural Language Semantics* 16:39-68.
- Wiltschko, Martina
- Wiltschko, Martina. In press. Plural modification below the word level: Evidence from Halkomelem Salish. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory*.