





The University of Montana acknowledges that we are in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people. We honor the path they have always shown us in caring for this place for the generations to come.

Office hours and contact information

 leora.bar-el@umontana.edu (she/her/hers)

-  Weekly online office hours (Mountain Time) - follow Zoom link on Moodle:
- Wednesdays 11am-12pm
 - Thursdays 4pm-5pm
 - Fridays 2pm-3pm
 - and by appointment (see below)

 For other meeting times, use my online scheduler (follow link on Moodle). Available meeting times will be updated weekly. You are welcome to sign-up for a meeting slot up to 24hrs before a selected time.

Course meeting times and modality

Tuesdays and Thursdays 2pm-3:20pm

Social Science 258 & Zoom (hyflex)

Note: the modality of our course may change. More information will be available.

Course description

This course is an examination of syntax, the branch of linguistics focusing on the scientific study of sentence structure in natural languages. We will become familiar with the basic concepts central to contemporary syntactic theory and how these operate in different languages of the world. We will develop and practice skills in linguistic analysis, concentrating on observing (and collecting) data, determining what counts as evidence, making generalizations, developing and testing hypotheses.

Prerequisites and Co-convening

LING 470 is a prerequisite for this course. LING 572 co-convenes with LING 472.

Moodle

This course has an [online supplement Moodle site](#) (click on Moodle NetID Login).

Technical Support

UMOnline: 406-243-4999 or toll-free 866-225-1641; [email](#); [website](#)

IT Central: 406-243-4357; [e-mail](#); [website](#)

Proposed course structure

I expect class meetings to include lectures, discussions of assigned readings, examination of data sets, student led discussions/presentations, in-class assignments, etc. Materials presented in class will be available for downloading from our course Moodle site.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, you will:

- Become familiar with the terminology and concepts of the study of syntax.
- Gain an understanding of the complexity of syntactic structures.
- Be able to use linguistic methods to find patterns in data sets.
- Understand how to construct and test hypotheses.
- Appreciate the richness and diversity of the world's languages and language users.

Requirements (open to some discussion; subject to change)

- **PARTICIPATION:** You will be expected to attend every class, come to class prepared, and be an active participant on a regular basis.
- **READINGS:** You will be expected to come to class having completed the assigned readings. Some of the readings may be challenging, but it will always be in your best interest to complete them before class.
- **ASSIGNMENTS:** You will complete a variety of shorter and longer assignments designed to help understand concepts, ask questions, put skills into practice, apply new ideas to other languages or domains, become familiar with different resources and learn to present data, generalizations, and analysis.
- **EXAM(S):** TBD
- **Graduate students** will complete additional requirements and their work is expected to be of a more advanced nature. Further information will be made available.

Readings

- There is no textbook for this class. Instead, we will be reading book chapters and occasionally papers from the primary literature. Readings will be available on Moodle.
- Sometimes you may be expected to consult reference grammars or other resources to compile data for examination in class. I will help guide you to those resources.
- Occasionally I may point you to further readings on the topics we discuss. If you find readings, links or other material that you think the class would benefit from, send them to me and I will post them on Moodle as appropriate.

Mansfield Library

- As a result of restrictions on course reserves at the [Mansfield Library](#) due to COVID-19, I have not set up course reserves this semester. If the class feels that a course reserves would be beneficial, we can discuss that as a group.
- If the library does not own a resource that you are looking for, you can request it through [Interlibrary Loan](#) (ILL). See also the Library's [Research and Find Materials](#) page for additional information.
- Looking for more help at the library? Explore the resources on the [Mansfield Library website](#), use their chat or e-mail feature, or visit the Reference Desk in person.

Other resources

- We may find some of the following resources useful this semester:
 - [World Atlas of Language Structures](#) (WALS)
 - [Syntax tree generator](#) (there are several [others](#) of these sites)
 - [World Atlas of Transitivity Pairs](#) (WATP)
 - [Corpus of Contemporary English](#) (COCA)
 - [International Corpus of English](#) (ICE)
 - [All things linguistic](#) blog

UM Writing and Public Speaking Center

[The University of Montana Writing and Public Speaking Center](#) provides one-on-one tutoring to students from any discipline, and at any level, as they write or prepare presentations for any course. Welcoming all students, the center provides a learning environment where students can engage in supportive conversations about their work and receive feedback at any point during their process. To make an appointment and learn more about the center, visit [their website](#).

Course Policies and Procedures

- **ATTENDANCE:** You are expected to attend every class and be an active participant. Unexcused lateness or absences will result in deductions to your grade. You are responsible for any missed material.
- **RESPECT YOUR CLASSMATES:** Arrive to class on time. You are responsible for all material covered, including announcements, questions/answers, etc., that may occur at the beginning of class. If you are late, be courteous and avoid being disruptive. If you anticipate being late to class regularly (e.g., due to a work schedule, a class on the other side of campus, etc.), inform me as soon as possible.
- **STUDENT CONDUCT CODE:** You are expected to be familiar with the *University of Montana Student Conduct Code*, which is downloadable from the [Community Standards webpage](#). You are also expected to be familiar with the University of Montana Academic Policies and Procedures, which can be found on the [Academic Policies and Procedures webpage](#).
- **E-MAIL:** Course information will be circulated by e-mail to your UM e-mail address (usually via Moodle, but in some cases, directly to your individual e-mail address). Check your UM e-mail account often. **You are responsible for ensuring that you are able to receive any course information circulated by e-mail.**
- **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:** Using the Moodle learning environment requires your computer to be set up to view and download documents (.pptx, .ppsx, .docx, .pdf), webpages, etc. More information can be found on the [UMOnline student support website](#). Contact UMLearning for assistance: 406-243-4999 or toll-free 866-225-1641; [UMOnline technical support e-mail address](#). If you are new to the Moodle Learning Environment, please visit [UMOnline](#), follow the **Moodle NedID Login** link, and once you have logged in, click on the **Moodle 101 for Students** (under Useful Links). Note that UM students get access to a free license of [Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus](#).
- **SUBMITTING GRADED WORK:** Unless otherwise indicated, completed work must be typed and uploaded to Moodle as .pdf or .docx files.
- **COURSE ACCOMMODATION:** The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and [Disability Services for Students](#) (DSS). If you have a disability that adversely affects your academic performance, and you have not yet registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or 406-243-2243. If you are already working with Disability Services your responsibilities are to contact me as soon as possible. I will work with you and Disability Services to discuss reasonable and appropriate accommodations. For more information, visit the [Disability Services for Students](#) website.
- **CULTURAL AND CEREMONIAL LEAVE** (see [Academic Policies and Procedures](#)) "Cultural or ceremonial leave allows excused absences for cultural, religious, and ceremonial purposes to meet the student's customs and traditions or to participate in related activities. To receive an authorized absence for a cultural, religious or ceremonial event the student or their advisor (proxy) must submit a formal written request to the instructor. This must include a brief description (with inclusive dates) of the cultural event or ceremony and the importance of the student's attendance or participation. Authorization for the absence is subject to approval by the instructor. Appeals may be made to the Chair, Dean or Provost. The excused absence or leave may not exceed five academic calendar days (not including weekends or holidays). Students remain responsible for completion or make-up of assignments as defined in the syllabus, at the discretion of the instructor."

Academic honesty

- All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students must be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).
- You are welcome (and encouraged!) to work together with classmates, but you must write up your submitted work on your own.

Basic Needs

Any student who faces challenges securing food or housing, and believes that this could affect their performance in this course, is urged to contact any or all of the following campus resources:

- The [UM Food Pantry](#) is located in UC 119. Emergency food for students can be accessed from there and from satellite food cupboards across campus.

- The [ASUM Renter Center](#) offers information, support and referrals for UM students at risk of homelessness or food insecurity.
- [TRiO Student Support Services](#) serves UM students who are low-income, first-generation college students, or have documented disabilities. Services include a textbook loan program, scholarships and financial aid help, academic advising, coaching, and tutoring. Students can check their [eligibility online](#).

Coronavirus

This Autumn 2020 semester, we find ourselves in the midst of a pandemic. Although the modality of our course may change, it is important to be aware of the **expectations** on the UM campus this semester, as well as the **resources** available to help navigate Autumn 2020. If you have questions, please ask.

- Mask use is required in the classroom. Be sure your mask is worn correctly for the entire duration of class. Familiarize yourself with the [UM Mask Policy](#).
- Pick up your [Healthy Griz Kit](#). The expectation is that you will clean your personal work space when you arrive for class and before you leave the classroom. Become familiar with the locations of hand sanitizer and disinfectant “refill” stations.
- Classrooms may have one-way entrances/exits to minimize crowding. Please watch for signage.
- Avoid congregating outside the classroom before and after class.
- Our classroom seating has been arranged to ensure social distancing and support contact tracing efforts. Please do not move the desks/chairs.
- Class attendance will be recorded to support contact tracing efforts.
- Avoid drinking liquids and eating food within the classroom as it requires mask removal. If you need to drink some water, please be sure that you replace your mask properly afterwards.
- Self-assess your health regularly. Stay home if you feel sick and/or if you develop COVID-19 symptoms. Contact [Curry Health Center](#) (406) 243-4330 if you develop symptoms.
- Remain vigilant outside the classroom to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
- Stay informed and up-to-date:
 - [UM Coronavirus Updates](#)
 - [UM Healthy Fall 2020 Plan](#)
 - [UM Keep on Learning](#)
 - [Curry Health Center](#)

Protect yourselves and each other. We are all in this together.

Some topics for consideration (suggestions welcome; open to some discussion; subject to change)

[I expect the first few classes, more if necessary, to focus on review from LING 470]

- Syntactic categories
- Phrase structure
- Constituency
- Argument structure
- Case theory
- Question formation
- Pronouns and anaphors
- Complex clauses
- Grammaticality judgements and data collection methodologies
- Syntactic typology
- A comparison of frameworks
- Syntactic theory in other sub-disciplines
- Etc.

This syllabus is subject to change