

## Course: ENG-222, Syntax

Credit Hours: 3

Level: 4th Semester

### Course Introduction:

Syntax is concerned with sentence structure - how words are combined to form phrases, how phrases are combined to form larger phrases, clauses and sentences, and how clauses are combined to form complex sentences. Ability to identify constituents and agreement constraints helps students to improve and correct their academic writing. The course is practical in focus and aims to teach students essential skills for the linguistic description and analysis of a language. The course also includes basic syntactic theories.

### Course Objectives

The course aims to:

- acquaint students with basics of syntax
- enable students to identify various parts of speech through structural signals

CLO No	Course Learning Outcomes	Bloom Taxonomy
CLO 1	Students will be able to illustrate the major syntactic structures of the English language	C2 (Understand)
CLO 2	Construct Tree diagram	C6 (Create)
CLO 3	To examine language in the light of syntactical theories	C5 (Evaluate)

### Course Contents

S. No	Weekly Distribution of Courses
Week 1	Syntax <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some concepts and misconceptions</li><li>• What is the study of syntax about?</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use of linguistic examples</li> <li>● Why not just use examples from English?</li> <li>● How to read linguistic examples</li> </ul>
<b>Week 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Why do languages have syntax? Structure of Phrase</li> <li>● NP: Noun Phrase</li> <li>● VP: Verb Phrase</li> </ul>
<b>Week 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● AP: Adjective Phrase</li> <li>● AdvP: Adverb Phrase</li> <li>● PP: Preposition Phrase</li> </ul>
<b>Week 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Grammar with phrases Clause</li> <li>● Clause and sentence</li> <li>● Main and sub-ordinate clauses</li> <li>● Clause constructions</li> <li>● Recognizing clauses</li> </ul>
<b>Week 5</b>	<p>Grammatical Functions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introduction</li> <li>● Subject</li> <li>● Direct and indirect object</li> <li>● Complements</li> </ul>
<b>Week 6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Modifiers</li> </ul>
<b>Week 7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Form and Function together</li> </ul>
<b>Week 8</b>	<p>Head, Complements and Modifiers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What is a head?</li> <li>● Head and its dependents</li> <li>● Projections from lexical heads to modifiers</li> <li>● Differences between modifiers and complements</li> <li>● PS Rules, X Rules and Features</li> </ul>
<b>Week 9</b>	<p>Mid Term</p>
<b>Week 10</b>	<p>Constituents and Tree diagrams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What is a constituent?</li> <li>● Evidence of structure in sentences</li> <li>● Some syntactic tests for constituent structure</li> <li>● Introduction to constituent structure trees</li> <li>● Relationships within the tree</li> </ul>

<b>Week 11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing detailed tree diagrams and tests for constituent structure</li> <li>• An introduction to the bar notation</li> </ul>
<b>Week 12</b>	Phrase Structure Grammar
<b>Week 13</b>	Transformational Generative Grammar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generative Grammar</li> <li>• Properties of Generative Grammar</li> <li>• Deep &amp; Surface structures</li> </ul>
<b>Week 14</b>	Transformational Grammar  Transformational Rules
<b>Week 15</b>	Basics of Systemic Functional Linguistics
<b>Week 16</b>	Basics of Systemic Functional Linguistics
<b>Week 17</b>	Basics of Systemic Functional Linguistics
<b>Week 18</b>	End Semester Exam

### Recommended Books

- Miller, Jim. (2002). *An Introduction to English Syntax*. Edinburg University Press.
- Prasad, Tarni. (2012). *A course in Linguistics*. New Delhi: PHI Publications.
- Sells, Peter & Kim, Jong-Bok. (2007). *English Syntax: An Introduction*.
- Tallerman, M. (2015). *Understanding syntax* (4<sup>th</sup> ed). Routledge, London.
- Wekker, H., & Haegeman, L. M. (1985). *A modern course in English syntax*. Croom Helm.
- Valin, Jr., Robert. (2001). *An Introduction to Syntax*. Cambridge University Press.