

ENG 235: MORPHOLOGY AND SYNTAX OF ENGLISH

Linguistics Section, Department of English Studies, University of Cyprus

Fall Semester 2005: Tuesdays & Fridays, 12.00-13.30 — Room E 003

<http://www.punksinscience.org/kleanthes/courses/MASOE>

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DESCRIPTION

The course examines the internal structure of words and the rules by which word formation takes place and provides an introductory study of English grammar from a formal perspective. It examines the relationship between syntax and morphology by considering the effects that some morphological processes have on syntax. It also considers the phrase structure properties of English, the different properties of main and embedded clauses, and discusses movement operations, such as yes/no and wh-questions, passives and raising constructions. *[from the prospectus]* The syntactic framework to be developed in this course is the Government-and-Binding Theory of generative grammar (“GB”).

ASSESSMENT

Regular attendance is strongly advised! Besides the class lectures, there will be:

1. one **final exam** covering the syntax material (take-home) (50%)
2. one **mid-term exam** on morphology problems (in-class) (30%)
3. regular **homework exercises** to be discussed in class (20%)
4. presence & **active participation** in class throughout (±x...)

The **take-home final** will be a **set of exercises** covering the syntax component of this semester. You may solve the puzzles either **by yourself or with one partner**. **Cheating** in any way will result in a failed course grade — the same goes for any attempt of **plagiarism**, in which case the issue will go further: **I do not accept even a hint of plagiarism!** You better familiarize yourselves with the rules.

The **mid-term exam** will be held in class and consist of morphology **exercises as practiced** in class.

Points 3 and 4 go partially hand in hand: I will call up **every student at least once** throughout the semester to **present at least one homework exercise** which will be the basis for grade evaluation. (You may also **write up** your homework: I’ll check and discuss with you every exercise handed in!)

Despite bad experiences in the past, **I will not take attendance this semester**. This means, however, that **I will not waste my time with students who choose to not show up for classes**. I thus repeat:

Regular attendance is strongly advised!

READING

I can't stress enough how important it will be for this course that you read at home! So let me repeat: **I can't stress enough how important it will be for this course that you read at home!** I'm serious and I hope the message is clear. All classes will follow the same pattern: **(i) I will assign you readings, (ii) which you will read for next class, (iii) when I will lecture on that material.** This also means: **I can't stress enough how important it will be for this course that you attend all classes!** Classes will be crucial and equally crucial will be that you understand everything we do. I will not always cover all the material; we will find our pace in a few classes. On the syllabus you'll find your reading assignments. **You will also find exercises: these refer to the material covered in the previous class and will be (partially) discussed in class at the beginning of the next class.**

There is **one required textbook** on syntax of which every student must have his/her own copy!

Poole, Geoffrey. 2002. *Syntactic Theory*. Basingstoke: Palgrave. ["GP"]

There is also **one supplementary textbook** (suggested; the morphology classes will follow it):

Aronoff, Mark & Kirsten Fudeman. 2005. *What Is Morphology?*. Oxford: Blackwell. ["A&F"]

The books listed below can be obtained for **short-term loan** at the library (where the **A&F-book** is included, in case you don't buy it yourself, which will be important for morphology homework):

1. Aronoff, M. & K. Fudeman. 2005. *What Is Morphology?* Oxford: Blackwell.
2. Bauer, L. 2002². *An Introduction to International Varieties of English*. Edinburgh: EUP.
3. Bauer, L. 2003². *Introducing Linguistic Morphology*. Edinburgh: EUP.
4. Haspelmath, M. 2002. *Understanding Morphology*. London: Arnold. [not yet there]
5. Katamba, F. 1994. *English Words*. London: Routledge.
6. Lieber, R. 1992. *Deconstructing Morphology*. Chicago: UCP.
7. Spencer, A. & A. Zwicky (eds.). 1998. *The Handbook of Morphology*. Oxford: Blackwell.
8. Stockwell, R. P. & D. Minkova. 2001. *English Words*. Cambridge: CUP.
9. Carnie, A. 2002. *Syntax*. Oxford: Blackwell.
10. Haegeman, L. & J. Guéron. 2000. *English Grammar*. Oxford: Blackwell.
11. Poole, G. 2002. *Syntactic Theory*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
12. Radford, A. 1988. *Transformational Grammar*. Cambridge: CUP.
13. Radford, A. 2004a. *Minimalist Syntax*. Cambridge: CUP.
14. Radford, A. 2004b. *English Syntax*. Cambridge: CUP.
15. Portner, P. 2004. *What Is Meaning?* Oxford: Blackwell.

Of course, there's lots more interesting books. You will find many of those mentioned in any of the above works and listed in the respective reference sections. **Feel free to browse through them!** One **excellent choice** would be this short book (of which Moufflon Bookshop still has a few in stock):

Carstairs-McCarthy, A. 2002. *An Introduction to English Morphology*. Edinburgh: EUP.

In addition, there is a **large number of relevant articles** published in refereed journals of the field. These are usually not as accessible as textbooks, but there are **some really good ones**. If you're interested, I'd be happy to point you to the relevant literature (and accessible articles). **Don't get me wrong:** I just said how important it is to read — but this does not mean that you have to read outside the assigned chapters or sections. These core readings in tandem with the class lectures will certainly be sufficient. Some of you might find this **easy going**, or would like to prepare for **future semesters and theoretical linguistics** (or even an **ERASMUS semester** or two abroad). I'm here to assist you!