# Introduction to Syntax

## Study Programme
- **Course**: Introduction to Syntax
- **Year**: 2021/2022
- **ECTS**: 3

## Department
- **Department**: Department of English Studies

## Level of Study Programme
- ☒ Undergraduate
- ☐ Graduate
- ☐ Integrated
- ☐ Postgraduate

## Type of Study Programme
- ☐ Single major
- ☒ Double major
- ☐ University
- ☐ Professional
- ☐ Specialized

## Year of Study
- ☐ 1.
- ☒ 2.
- ☐ 3.
- ☐ 4.
- ☐ 5.

## Semester
- ☐ Winter
- ☒ Summer
- ☐ I.
- ☐ II.
- ☒ III.
- ☒ IV.
- ☐ V.
- ☒ VI.
- ☐ VII.
- ☒ VIII.
- ☐ IX.
- ☐ X.

## Status of the Course
- ☒ Compulsory
- ☐ Elective
- ☐ Elective course offered to students from other departments
- Teaching Competencies
  - ☒ YES
  - ☐ NO

## Workload
- 30 L
- 15 S
- E
- Internet sources for e-learning
  - ☒ YES
  - ☐ NO

## Location and Time of Instruction
- Tuesday, 8-10 (lectures, Grand Hall) and 10-12 (seminars, Grand Hall)
- Language(s) in which the course is taught: English

## Course Start Date
- 1 March 2022

## Course End Date
- 7 June 2022

## Enrolment Requirements
- Enrolment in the 4th semester undergraduate English Studies

## Course Coordinator
- Sanja Škifić, Ph.D., Associate Professor
- E-mail: sskific@unizd.hr
- Consultation hours: Friday, 9-10 or by appointment via e-mail

## Course Instructor
- Sanja Škifić, Ph.D., Associate Professor
- E-mail: sskific@unizd.hr
- Consultation hours: Friday, 9-10 or by appointment via e-mail

## Assistant/Associate
- E-mail: sskific@unizd.hr
- Consultation hours

## Mode of Teaching
- ☒ Lectures
- ☒ Seminars
- ☐ Exercises
- ☐ E-learning
- ☐ Field work
- ☐ Individual assignments
- ☐ Multimedia and network
- ☐ Laboratory
- ☐ Mentoring
- ☐ Other

## Learning Outcomes
The course develops the following generic competencies:

a) instrumental competencies: cognitive abilities; understanding and dealing with ideas and concepts; analysis and synthesis, ability to solve problems

b) interpersonal competencies: ability of critical argumentation; ability of team work; social interaction and co-operation with others

c) systematic competencies: individual work; ability to compare different approaches and knowledge structures, critical thinking

By the end of the course the students will be able to:

- define and describe basic syntactic concepts
- analyze the relationship between the constituents of simple and complex sentences and their functions
- apply the knowledge about the relationship between constituents of simple and complex sentences and their functions in syntactic descriptions and production of simple and complex sentences of the English language

## Learning Outcomes at the Programme
- Identify and describe relevant concepts and ideas
level | -connect different approaches and sources of knowledge through an interdisciplinary approach  
| -identify, interpret, connect and apply phonological, morphological, and syntactic structures of the English language  

Assessment criteria | ☒ Class attendance | ☐ Preparation for class | ☐ Homework | ☐ Continuous evaluation | ☐ Research  
| ☐ Practical work | ☐ Experimental work | ☐ Presentation | ☐ Project | ☒ Seminar  

Conditions for permission to take the exam | Class attendance (70%) and accepted seminar paper. Accepted seminar paper is a prerequisite for obtaining the signature, but is not a component in the formation of the final grade. Students are required to write a seminar paper in the field of syntax, 2000-2500 words long. Seminar papers are written in pairs. Seminar topics are determined with the course instructor during office hours. Students should be consistent in using the APA citation style throughout the paper. The first version of the seminar paper should be sent by the beginning of 13th week of class the latest.  

Exam periods | ☐ Winter | ☒ Summer | ☒ Autumn  

Exam dates | to be announced later  

Course description | The course offers a detailed overview of the structure and constituents of simple and complex sentences in the English language. Students are acquainted with basic syntactic structures, which are identified, interpreted and analyzed. Furthermore, students are acquainted with different theoretical frameworks by means of which these phenomena are analyzed, primarily within the traditional, transformational-generative and cognitive approaches. In that way, students develop critical thinking towards basic syntactic theoretical frameworks.  

Course content | Lectures:  
1. Introduction to the course  
2. Sentence structure  
3. Functions of sentence constituents  
5. Verb phrase. Verb categorization.  
7. Mid-term test  
8. Verbs I: lexical and auxiliary verbs. Verbs II: negative sentences, questions, passive sentences  
11. Wh-clauses  
12. Relative clauses  
13. Non-finite clauses  
14. Contemporary approach to syntax  
15. End-term test  

Seminars follow the topics covered in lectures.  


Internet sources


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria of learning outcomes</th>
<th>Final exam only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ Final written exam</td>
<td>☐ Final oral exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Final written and oral exam</td>
<td>☐ Final exam and oral exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Only test/homework</td>
<td>☐ Test/homework and final exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ Seminar paper</td>
<td>☐ Seminar paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Final exam/tests and seminar paper</td>
<td>☐ Practic al work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Other forms</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Calculation of final grade

The final grade is formed on the basis of the mean value of the percentages obtained on the mid-term and end-term exams. If both are not positively evaluated, the student has to take the final exam. In that case, the final grade is formed on the basis of the results obtained on the final exam. If the student is not satisfied with the mean value from mid-term and end-term exams, he/she can take the final exam.

Grading scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0%-59%</td>
<td>Failure (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%-69%</td>
<td>Satisfactory (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%-79%</td>
<td>Good (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80%-89%</td>
<td>Very good (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90%-100%</td>
<td>Excellent (5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course evaluation procedures

☒ Student evaluations conducted by the University
☐ Student evaluations conducted by the Department
☐ Internal evaluation of teaching
☐ Department meetings discussing quality of teaching and results of student evaluations
☐ Other

Note /Other

In accordance with Art. 6 of the *Code of Ethics* of the Committee for Ethics in Science and Higher Education, “the student is expected to fulfil his/her obligations honestly and ethically, to pursue academic excellence, to be civilized, respectful and free from prejudice.”

According to Art. 14 of the University of Zadar’s *Code of Ethics*, students are expected to “fulfil their responsibilities responsibly and conscientiously. […] Students are obligated to safeguard the reputation and dignity of all members of the university community and the University of Zadar as a whole, to promote moral and academic values and principles. […] Any act constituting a violation of academic honesty is ethically prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to:

- various forms of fraud such as the use or possession of books, notes, data, electronic gadgets or other aids during examinations, except when permitted;
- various forms of forgery such as the use or possession of unauthorised materials during the exam; impersonation and attendance at exams on behalf of other students; fraudulent study documents; forgery of signatures and grades; falsifying exam results.”

All forms of unethical behaviour will result in a negative grade in the course without the possibility of compensation or repair. In case of serious violations the *Rulebook on Disciplinary Responsibility of Students at the University of Zadar* will be applied.

In electronic communications only messages coming from known addresses with a first and a last name, and which are written in the Croatian standard and appropriate academic style, will be responded to.

This course uses the Merlin system for e-learning, so students are required to have an AAI account.

Due to the epidemiological situation related to COVID-19, certain changes in the syllabus are possible.