

1. General Information

Instructor: Susana Bejar

Lecture: Tue 1-3 (MS)

Tutorials: Thu TUT0101 10-11 (SS), TUT0201 1-2 (UC), TUT0301 4-5 (BL), TUT5101 5-6 (UC)

Course page: Quercus: <https://q.utoronto.ca>

2. Contacting the teaching team (See also §8a below)

Office Hours: Thursdays 2:00-3:00 **SS4084** or by appointment

Piazza: for questions about course content or course administration (link in Quercus)

Email: only for personal/administrative matters: susana.bejar@utoronto.ca

3. Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course. Assigned readings will be excerpts from various sources that are made available via Quercus. Also in Quercus, students can find optional background reading recommendations.

4. Course description and learning outcomes

This course is a basic introduction to syntactic analysis and argumentation in the generative framework. It covers syntactic categories (parts of speech), constituency and phrase structure, and then moves on to major phenomena observed in sentence structures and theoretical tools used to model them in generative syntax. We will examine a variety of syntactic dependencies: argument selection, modification/adjunction, raising, *wh*-movement, and binding as well as constraints on such dependencies and the motivation for positing these. The concepts and tools introduced in this course will be employed in the analysis of empirical data drawn not only from English but from a variety of languages.

At the end of this course, students will be able to analyze sentence and phrase structures, diagnose various syntactic relationships, understand the motivations behind key theoretical concepts in generative grammar, and will begin to make and test theoretical predictions with given or self-constructed data. Students will also be able to communicate their observations and analyses in class discussions and written work.

5. Assessment

Tutorial engagement	8%	Summative grade at term end; 2 absences forgiven
Homework x 8	7%	1% \times 7 (lowest grade dropped); see schedule for dates
Midterm	30%	October 7, 1-3, in person, room TBA
Quiz	18%	November 11, 1-2, in person, room TBA
Final exam	37%	During final exam period (Dec 5-23, 2024), in person

6. Important course details

Lecture notes in the form of a handout will be posted in Quercus each week before class. Please download these and either bring hardcopies to class or bring a device suitable for taking notes.

Weekly homework assignments are designed to promote learning of the course material outside of class. Some important notes about homework:

- Homework will be posted on Quercus but **hardcopies must be printed out and submitted in person in tutorial on the due date.**
- You are encouraged to discuss the homework with others however **all work must be written up individually.**
- Homework will always be discussed in tutorial on the day that it is due.
- A (partial) key for each homework will be posted in Quercus after the deadline.
- Homeworks will be corrected by TAs **but graded for completion.**

Tutorials are central to the structure of this course. It is in tutorial that students will have the opportunity to discuss weekly homework assignments in detail, as well as opportunities for other kinds of discussion.

Quercus is an essential tool in this course. Lecture notes, readings, homework assignments, homework keys, general announcements and grades will all be managed via our Quercus page. To access the course website go to <https://q.utoronto.ca> and login using your UTORID and password. You can access Quercus help and resources for students through <https://qstudents.utoronto.ca/>. To ensure smooth course communication, make sure your notification settings on Quercus are set to notify you of course events and ensure that you have a valid U of T email address entered in ROSI/ACORN. It is not recommended to forward Quercus notifications to non-U of T email providers as these may treat the notifications as junk mail.

Learning support There are numerous resources at U of T that can help you succeed in this course. The Faculty of Arts & Science sponsors **Recognized Study Groups** (see the class Quercus page for details). The Linguistics Graduate Course Union (LGCU) runs a **Tutoring** service for undergraduate students taking linguistics classes. <https://www.linguistics.utoronto.ca/curriculum-course-information/tutoring> The University at large offers many resources to support general study skills and habits. A good place to start is the [Academic Success Centre](#). See also:

- General student services and resources at [Student Life](#)
- Full library service through [University of Toronto Libraries](#)
- Resources on conducting online research through [University Libraries](#)
- [Research](#)
- Learner support at the [Writing Centre](#)
- Quercus help and resources for U of T students at [Quercus For Students](#)

7. Course schedule:

Week	Tuesday Lecture	Thursday Tutorial	Homework assigned
1	09.02 Introduction	09.04 <i>no tutorial</i>	HW1 assigned (practice only; not submitted)
2	09.09 Constituency	09.11 HW1 discussed	HW2 assigned
3	09.16 Phrase Structure	09.18 HW2 due + discussed	HW3 assigned
4	09.23 DP and CP	09.25 HW3 due + discussed	HW4 assigned
5	09.30 Selection	10.02 HW4 due + discussed	HW5 assigned
6	10.07 Midterm	10.09 <i>no tutorial</i>	
7	10.14 Head movement	10.16 HW5 due + discussed	HW6 assigned
8	10.21 DP movement	10.23 HW6 due + discussed	HW7 assigned
	10.27-10.31 FALL READING WEEK		
9	11.04 Case	11.06 HW7 due + discussed	HW8 assigned
10	11.11 Quiz; Alignment	11.13 HW8 due + discussed	HW9 assigned
11	11.18 Wh-movement	11.20 HW9 due + discussed	HW10 assigned (practice only; not submitted)
12	11.25 Locality; Review	11.27 HW10 discussed	

November 11, 2025 - Last day to drop F courses without academic penalty

December 2, 2025 - Last day to add or remove a CR/NCR option in Fall F courses

December 2, 2025 - Last day to request Late Withdrawal from F courses

December 3-4, 2025 - Study days

December 5-23, 2025 - Final exam period

8. Course policies

a. Contacting the teaching team

- Questions about course content and general course logistics should be posted to piazza (link in Quercus) or brought up in class or at office hours.
- Email susana.bejar@utoronto.ca regarding personal/administrative matters only. It may take up to 2 business days for you to receive a response. Please include the course code LIN232 in the subject line and sign off with the name by which you would like to be addressed in the reply.
- Please do not send messages via the Quercus inbox. That account is not monitored.
- LIN232 TAs do not have hours in their contracts for email.

b. Classroom environment

- Please arrive on time so that classroom activities are not disrupted.
- Please be respectful of other students and the instructor. This includes not talking while another person is addressing the class.
- Please do not engage in outside activities during class (e.g. texting, streaming video 🍷).

c. Accessibility needs

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for specific needs, or if you have any accessibility concerns please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible. You can do so through email accessibility.services@utoronto.ca or by visiting the website for [Accessibility Services](#).

d. Late or missed term work

Tests The term tests (Midterm and Quiz) must be written during the time provided. If a test is missed due to severe circumstances for which appropriate documentation can be provided, a make-up test opportunity may be given. In such circumstances students must send a written request to the instructor as soon as possible and attach appropriate documentation (see §8f on "Student absences" below). **Make-up tests must arranged within a week of the missed test date.**

Weekly homework There are no extensions for the weekly homework because the solutions are reviewed in tutorial on the same day they are due. Homework that is not submitted on time will receive a grade of 0%. However, as an accommodation extended to all students, we drop the lowest homework grade.

e. Documentation of student absences

If illness or severe circumstances affect your ability to do your academic work, consult the instructor right away. Normally, you will be asked for documentation in support of your specific circumstances. This documentation can be an Absence Declaration (via ACORN) or the University's Verification of Student Illness or Injury (VOI) form. The VOI indicates the impact and severity of the illness, while protecting your privacy about the details of the nature of the illness. If you cannot submit a VOI due to limits on terms of use, you can submit a different form (like a letter from a doctor), as long as it is an original document, and it contains the same information as the VOI (including dates, academic impact, practitioner's signature, phone and registration number). For more information on the VOI, please see <http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca>. For information on Absence Declaration Tool for A&S students, please see <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/absence>.

f. Individual vs. group work

You are encouraged to discuss course content and homework with your peers however all work submitted for assessment must be written up individually.

g. Use of generative artificial intelligence tools

You may use generative artificial intelligence tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, etc.) for learning and practicing the concepts in this course, but these tools may NOT be used for completing assignments in this course.

Students should be aware that ChatGPT and similar chat bots are not “intelligent” and can only produce answers that are determined to be the most likely response based on its training data. They can often only answer basic linguistic questions that would otherwise be *easily* searchable on the internet. Therefore, the provided answers are often vague, overly general, poorly reasoned, or fully incorrect. In short, it is strongly advised that, if you use generative artificial intelligence tools, you not rely on these for accuracy or consistency with course expectations, since pervasive factual, stylistic, and reasoning errors are common.

h. Process for requesting regrading of term work

Students who wish to request regrading of term work must submit their request in writing to the instructor no later than two weeks after having received the work back. The written request should include clear justification of the basis for the request. As per the [Arts & Science Academic Handbook](#) (§4.13), "Such a request entails a re-marking of the work. Hence, if a re-marking is granted, the student must accept the resulting mark as the new mark, whether it goes up or down or remains the same. Continuing with the re-mark or the appeal means the student accepts this condition."

9. University guidelines and policies

a. Academic integrity

Academic integrity is taken very seriously at the University of Toronto. It is of the utmost importance to the pursuit of scholarship and the certification of learning that grades awarded be a fair reflection of student achievement. Students are expected to acquaint themselves with and abide by U of T guidelines on academic integrity. <https://www.academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/>

Students are expected to observe the following Academic Integrity Statement at all times:

- *In submitting this [test, exam, assignment or any other form of academic work], I confirm that my conduct during this [test, exam, assignment, or any other form of academic work] adheres to the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. I confirm that I did NOT act in such a way that would constitute cheating, misrepresentation, or unfairness, including but not limited to, using unauthorized aids and assistance, personating another person, and committing plagiarism.*

In the event that a violation of academic integrity is suspected, the teaching team is obligated to document the situation and submit this documentation to the Department of Linguistics and the Office of Student Academic Integrity, as per the procedures outlined in the Code of Behavior on Academic Matters. <https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/secretariat/policies/code-behaviour-academic-matters-july-1-2025>

Note that students who are under investigation for academic integrity violation are not allowed to withdraw from the course and will be reinstated if they do so.
<https://www.academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/process-and-procedures/>

b. Grading policy

Grades in this course conform to the Department of Linguistics grading policy:
<https://www.linguistics.utoronto.ca/undergraduate-programs/grading-policy>

The Department of Linguistics also follows the University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy:
<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/sites/default/files/import-files/grading8958.pdf>
<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/sites/default/files/import-files/grading8958.pdf>

c. Statement on equity, diversity, and inclusion

The University of Toronto is committed to equity, human rights and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect where all members of our community can express themselves, engage with each

other, and respect one another's differences. U of T does not condone discrimination or harassment against any persons or communities.

Students play a vital role in the learning environment. You can acquaint yourselves with the Code of Student Conduct to fully understand your rights and responsibilities.

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/secretariat/policies/code-student-conduct-december-13-2019>

d. Copyright and Privacy

- All lectures and associated course materials (handouts, assignments, etc) are the intellectual property of course instructors. Students are not permitted to audio- or video-record lectures with the exception of those students requiring an accommodation for a disability, who should speak to the instructor prior to beginning to record.
- For copyright and privacy reasons, posting course materials online or distributing them to people not enrolled in this course is prohibited without the advance written permission of the course instructor as well as any people contained within recordings.
- Students creating unauthorized video or audio recording of lectures violate an instructor's intellectual property rights and the Canadian Copyright Act. Students violating this agreement will be subject to disciplinary actions under the Code of Student Conduct. For further information see the Provostial guidelines on the Appropriate Use of Information and Communication Technology. <https://www.provost.utoronto.ca/planning-policy/information-communication-technology-appropriate-use/>
- Implied Limited License: It is expected that you take notes in this class and you are authorized to do so. However, you are not authorized to share your notes with anyone outside of the class, sell them to anyone, post them on a website, and/or make any commercial use of them
- Students may not take screenshots of class chats, class discussion board entries or any other course content without the prior and explicit permission of the course instructor. Taking screenshots of class chats, discussion board entries or other class content and distributing them via the Internet using social media such as Facebook, peer-to-peer file sharing such as One Drive or Dropbox, or other distribution channels may be considered a violation of privacy and of intellectual property rights. Students violating this agreement will be subject to disciplinary actions under the Code of Student Conduct.