המחלקה לספרויות זרות ובלשנות – שנת הלימודים תשפ"ב 2021-2022

שם הקורס: מבוא לתחביר

מס' קורס :

שם המרצה: טובה רפופורט

Wednesday, 14:00-16:00

The course is devoted to syntax, the branch of linguistics that deals with the way in which words combine to form phrases and phrases combine to form sentences. We will be considering basic syntactic concepts such as lexical and phrasal categories, constituent structure, tree diagrams, structural ambiguity, subcategorization frames, and phrase structure rules. We will also discuss subjects vs. objects, syntactic movement, binding, and control. While most of the course will deal with English data, we will also be making comparisons with your native languages.

Requirements and grading

There are *assigned readings*, posted on Moodle. We will also upload any additional material you request. Students are expected to read the assigned material, *bring any questions and comments to class* and participate in class discussions. Attendance is therefore required.

There are also *written assignments*.
It is useful to work on the assignments (as well as the readings) with others. Given this, students are encouraged to submit their work in pairs.
Your completed assignments, typed in the proper format (see under Assignments on Moodle) will be due as announced.
Assignments must be handed in on time. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Assignments: 25%
Final exam: 75% (Students must earn a passing grade in the exam in order to pass the course.)

Tentative schedule:
Week 1   Review and introduction, basic syntax concepts
Week 2   The lexicon: subcategorization, theta-roles, theta principles
Week 3   Phrase structure: the VP
Week 4   Phrase structure: Constituency tests, arguments & adjuncts. Assignment 1 due.
Week 5   Tree structure and X-bar Theory
Week 6   Syntactic ambiguity. Assignment 2 due.
Week 7   Structural relations, Binding Theory
Week 8   Clause structure: Clausal arguments. Assignment 3 due.
Week 9   Clause structure: Null subjects of different types
Week 10   The structure of NP. Assignment 4 due.
Week 11   Movement in syntax. Assignment 5 due.
Week 12   Putting it all together