

## SPRING 2025

### CURRENT COURSES

#### **Advanced Topics in Syntax:**

This course introduces students to some aspects of contemporary generative syntax, and it does so by taking as a case study some book chapters and journal articles focusing on topics such as the syntax of inner aspectual markers in languages like English and Hungarian, or the syntax of result states. Besides these two languages, class discussions may also include data from other languages to provide students with a cross-linguistic view of these phenomena.

#### **Topics in Language Research 2. – Argument Structure**

The aim of the course is to introduce students to various issues at the interface of syntax and lexical semantics with the help of book chapters and journal articles focusing on topics such as inner aspect, the argument structure of verbs and event lexicalization. Throughout the course, we'll discuss data from various languages in an effort to provide students with a cross-linguistic view of these phenomena.

#### **Vocabulary Building:**

This course follows the chapters of *Advanced English Vocabulary in Use* by Michael McCarthy and Felicity O'Dell. The book focuses not just on single words, but on useful phrases and collocations, and the vocabulary is illustrated in natural contexts. The book is organized around everyday topics, but also has units devoted to basic concepts such as time, modality, manner and varieties and style. Typical errors are indicated where appropriate, based on information from the Cambridge Learner Corpus, and the most typical meanings and uses are focused on for each key item. Each unit offers a variety of different types of activities, some traditional ones such as gap-filling, but also more open-ended ones and personalized activities which enable learners to talk about their own lives.

### COURSES TAUGHT

#### **Targeting the Verb Phrase:**

This course serves as an introduction to some of the most important topics centered around verbs and verb phrases in English. These topics include tense, aspect, auxiliaries, mood and modality. Although the main focus of the course is the English verb phrase, discussions during class sessions may include other languages in an effort to provide students with a cross-linguistic overview of the structure of the verb phrase.

#### **English Pronunciation:**

This course is based on the chapters of Dick Smakman's book titled *Clear English Pronunciation: A Practical Guide* (2020, Routledge). The aim of the book as well as the course is to provide students with the tools to effectively communicate in English as a non-native language without centering solely on native-speaker pronunciation models. The discussions during class sessions will include detailed explanations, various sample sentences, and audio recordings as well as videos to help learners improve their English pronunciation keeping in

mind their native language(s).

With the help of the textbook chosen, students will be introduced to the phenomenon of pronunciation as part of a broader communicative realm, will receive explanations and demonstrations of the melody and rhythm of understandable and natural English pronunciation, and will be supported in identifying and practicing their own pronunciation issues.

By the end of the course, students will have improved their pronunciation and communicative skills to be able to confidently participate in diverse social situations.

**Grammar in Context:**

The course follows the chapters of Roger Berry's *English Grammar: A Resource Book for Students* (2012, Routledge). We begin by exploring word class memberships and then proceed with class sessions dedicated to some of the individual word classes and the larger constituents that they can form – nouns and noun phrases, adjectives, adverbs and prepositions, verbs and auxiliaries, as well as verb phrases and their variations.

As also stated in the textbook chosen, the main objective of this course is to encourage students to evaluate critically the knowledge they already have, and to build up, trust and constructively express their own intuitions about their languages. The course assumes no prior knowledge and aims to offer an accessible overview of the topics with ample discussions during class sessions, activities, and key readings. Each topic will be covered across three sections of the book – *Introduction*, *Development* and *Exploration* – allowing students to build gradually on the knowledge they already have during class discussions.