

ESTRUCTURAS SINTÁCTICAS DEL INGLÉS**Código:** 14790**Titulación:** Filología Inglesa**Naturaleza de la asignatura:** Troncal**Curso:** 3º**Ciclo:** 2º**Créditos:** 6**Semestre:** 1º**Profesores:** Ana Ardid, Rocío Jiménez, Amaya Mendikoetxea**Contenido de la asignatura**Descripción

En este curso se ofrece una descripción de aspectos centrales de la gramática del inglés estándar moderno. Su objetivo es proporcionar un análisis detallado de los principios que rigen la construcción de las palabras, sintagmas y oraciones en inglés. Hacia el final del curso, se espera que los alumnos hayan adquirido un marco conceptual para la descripción de la gramática del inglés, con referencia, sobre todo, al análisis de constituyentes.

Analizaremos en detalle la estructura interna de los constituyentes sintagmáticos y clausales utilizando herramientas descriptivas y terminología de marcos teóricos recientes- Nos centraremos sobre todo en los Verbos y Sintagmas verbales (Topics 3-5), bajo la hipótesis de que el verbo es el elemento más importante de la oración desde el p.v. sintáctico: las propiedades (léxico-semánticas) del verbo determinan la presencia (obligatoria o no) de otros elementos en la oración. En el tema 6 nos centramos en los Sintagmas Nominales. En todos los temas se introducen conceptos básicos del análisis gramatical, a la vez que se cubre un amplio abanico de hechos empíricos.

Programa:

Topic 1: THE GOALS OF GRAMMATICAL DESCRIPTION

Topic 2: BASIC CONCEPTS IN GRAMMAR

1. Grammatical units
2. Constituents and constituent structure
3. Elements of clause structure

Topic 3: VERBS: FROM THE LEXICON TO THE GRAMMAR

1. An Introduction to the lexicon
2. Argument Structure
3. Subcategorization
4. Semantic types of predicates and propositions
5. Verb types and clause types

Topic 4: SPECIAL VERB-PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS

1. Transitive Verbs + Preposition/Particle
2. Intransitive Verbs + Preposition/Particle
3. Ditransitive Verbs + Preposition/Particle

Topic 5: VERBS AND THEIR ALTERNATIONS

1. Syntactic and lexical processes in verb alternation
2. Transitivity alternations
3. Alternations involving arguments within the VP

4. Oblique subject alternations
5. Other constructions

Topic 6: NOUNS AND NOUN PHRASES

1. Aspects of Noun Morphology
2. Specifiers in the Noun Phrase
3. Modifiers in the Noun Phrase: N'
4. Case: The Genitive

Topic 7: LEXICAL WORD-FORMATION

1. Morphological structure
2. Minor word-formation processes
3. Conversion
4. Compounds
5. The core of English lexical word-formation

Modo de evaluación

- Un número de Tareas (tasks) a completar a los largo del cuatrimestre.
- Examen final basado en resolución de problemas y análisis, con énfasis en la argumentación gramatical.

Bibliografía

No hay libro de texto como tal, pero con frecuencia haremos usos de una gramática de referencia de publicación reciente: *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language* (Huddleston & Pullum 2002). Una aproximación más tradicional es la de Greenbaum & Quirk (1990) *Transformational Grammar* de Radford (1988) es más técnico pero tiene una aproximación pedagógica muy clara. Muchos de los análisis del curso se basan en el tipo de evidencia sintáctica detallada que proporciona este autor.

Se proporcionará en reprografía un *Course Reader* que contiene una selección de lecturas obligatorias.

Bibliografía Principal

- Aarts, B. (1997) *English Syntax and Argumentation*. MacMillan Press: London
- Downing A. & P. Locke (2002) *A University Grammar of English*. 2nd edition. London: Routledge (first published in 1993 by Prentice Hall)
- Greenbaum S. & R. Quirk (1990) *A Student's Grammar of English*. London: Longman
- Huddleston, R. & G. Pullum (2002) *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language*. London: Longman.
- Katamba, F. (1993) *Morphology*. MacMillan Press: London.
- Kilby, D. (1984) *Descriptive Grammar and the English Verb*. London: Croom Helm
- Levin, B. (1993) *English Verb Classes and Alternations*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.
- Radford, A. (1988) *Transformational Grammar*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Van Gelderen, E. (2002) *An Introduction to the Grammar of English*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins
- Wardaugh, R. (1995) *Understanding English Grammar. A Linguistic Approach*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Bibliografía Adicional

- Biber et al. (1999) *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English*. London: Longman.
- Brinton, L. J. (2000) *The Structure of Modern English*. Amsterdam: John Benjamin.
- COLLINS (1999) *Collins COBUILD English Grammar*. London: Collins.

Haegeman, L. & J. Guéron (1999) *English Grammar: A Generative Perspective*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Huddleston, R. (1988) *English Grammar: An Outline*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

Conocimientos básicos exigidos

No se especifican.

Observaciones

Este es un curso de naturaleza esencialmente práctica con el objetivo de que los alumnos desarrollen una actitud activa hacia la gramática. La estructura de las clases y los ejemplos a tratar aparecen reflejados en un paquete de Handouts que tiene que comprar los alumnos en reprografía y que deben traer a todas las clases. Al final de cada tema en los handouts hay ejercicios cuya realización es obligatoria, al igual que las tareas (véase Evaluación). Igualmente, la asistencia a las clases prácticas es obligatoria.

Por ser un curso de contenido acumulativo se recomienda a los alumnos que estén al día con las lecturas y los ejercicios.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers a description of central aspects of the grammar of modern Standard English. Its purpose is to provide a detailed account of the principles governing the construction of English words, phrases, clauses and sentences. Towards the end of the course we expect students to have acquired a conceptual framework for the description of the English language, focusing mainly on constituent structure.

This is a descriptive course; its goal is not to defend or illustrate a theory of language. However, the languages human beings use are too complex to be described except by means of a theory. We presuppose a theory which classifies words into parts of speech and determines the way in which sentences can be put together by combining words and we will be using descriptive tools and terminology of recent theoretical frameworks. The purpose of this is not to make the data fit in within a grammatical theory but to obtain a better understanding of the mechanisms by which small grammatical units combine into larger units in the grammar of English.

We will analyse in detail the internal structure of phrasal and clausal constituents in English from the point of view of grammatical description. A lot of attention is devoted to Verbs and Verb Phrases (Topics 3-5), under the assumption that the Verb is syntactically the most important element within the clause: properties of the Verb determine what other types of elements are required or permitted. The underlying assumption is that these properties of Verbs (and other predicates) are to a large extent determined by their lexical-semantic properties. Noun Phrases are dealt with in Topic 6, and aspects of morphology and lexical word-formation are dealt with in Topic 7. In all topics, basic concepts of grammatical analysis are introduced, while covering a wide range of empirical facts.

PROGRAMA DE LA ASIGNATURA EN LENGUA INGLESA

1. GOALS

This course is a description of central aspects of the grammar of modern Standard English. Its purpose is to provide a detailed account of the principles governing the construction of English words, phrases, clauses and sentences. Towards the end of the course we expect students to have acquired a conceptual framework for the description of the English language, focusing mainly on constituent structure.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

This is a descriptive course; its goal is not to defend or illustrate a theory of language. However, the languages human beings use are too complex to be described except by means of a theory. We presuppose a theory which classifies words into parts of speech and determines the way in which sentences can be put together by combining words and we will be using descriptive tools and terminology of recent theoretical frameworks. The purpose of this is not to make the data fit in within a grammatical theory but to obtain a better understanding of the mechanisms by which small grammatical units combine into larger units in the grammar of English.

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3. DETAILED COURSE PROGRAM

Topic 1: THE GOALS OF GRAMMATICAL DESCRIPTION

1. What type of grammar?
2. What is English?

Topic 2: BASIC CONCEPTS IN GRAMMAR

1. Grammatical units: morphological and syntactic units
2. Constituents and constituent structure
3. Elements of clause structure

Topic 3: FROM THE LEXICON TO THE GRAMMAR

1. An Introduction to the lexicon
2. Argument Structure
3. Subcategorization
4. Semantic types of predicates and propositions
5. Verb types and clause types

Topic 4: SPECIAL VERB-PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS

1. Transitive Verbs + Preposition/Particle
2. Intransitive Verbs + Preposition/Particle
3. Ditransitive Verbs + Preposition/Particle

Topic 5: VERBS AND THEIR ALTERNATIONS

1. Syntactic and lexical processes in verb alternation
2. Transitivity alternations
3. Alternations involving arguments within the VP
4. Oblique subject alternations
5. Other constructions

Topic 6: NOUNS AND NOUN PHRASES

1. Aspects of Noun Morphology
2. Specifiers in the Noun Phrase
3. Modifiers in the Noun Phrase: N'
4. Case: The Genitive

Topic 7: LEXICAL WORD-FORM

1. Minor word-formation processes
2. Conversion
3. Compounds
4. Some issues on derivation

4. PRACTICAL CREDITS

The course is essentially practical in order to enable students to adopt an active role and think about grammar rather than being 'passive' readers of grammars. No specific times are set aside for practical credits, but there are a number of exercises covering most aspects of the content of the course which will be corrected in class, as we cover the specific topics of the program. Additionally, students are required to complete a number of Tasks (see Evaluation).

5. EVALUATION

A final exam at the end of the semester, based on problem-solving activities, with emphasis on grammatical argumentation.

6. REFERENCES

There is no textbook for the course as such. However, we will frequently refer a recent large-scale grammar of English The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language (Huddleston & Pullum 2002). A more traditional approach is that of Greenbaum & Quirk (1990), on which we comment below. Radford's Transformational Grammar is more technical, but it has got a clear, pedagogical approach. Some of the analyses we will be proposing in class are based on the type of detailed syntactic evidence that Radford (1988) provides.

There is a Course Reader containing a selection of readings related to the material covered in class, as well as to specific parts of the program which are not dealt with in much detail in class.

Brief description of main references (in alphabetical order):

Aarts, B. (1997) English Syntax and Argumentation. MacMillan Press: London

Downing A. & P. Locke (2002) A University Grammar of English. 2nd edition. London: Routledge (first published in 1993 by Prentice Hall)

A descriptive grammar of English within the framework of Systemic-Functional grammar which offers a very wide coverage of grammatical constructions focusing on the interrelation between form, meaning and function. It is particularly recommended for aspects of text grammar, as well as grammar beyond the sentence (Topic 5).

Greenbaum S. & R. Quirk (1990) A Student's Grammar of English. London: Longman

This descriptive grammar of English, especially suitable for students of English Philology, covers most aspects that the course deals with. It is a shorter version of Quirk et al.(1985) A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language, of which we recommend specific sections to extend the explanations given in Greenbaum & Quirk (1992). It is not based on any specific grammatical framework and it makes use of traditional terminology for the description of grammatical aspects. The explanations given are normally of a morphological and syntactic nature, but aspects of semantics and discourse are also mentioned. In areas of grammar which require a more abstract analysis, such as some aspects of the complementation of verbs and nouns, the account given is confusing and superficial.

Huddleston, R. & G. Pullum (2002) The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language. London: Longman.

This is not a textbook, but a large-scale reference grammar of English. It covers an

impressive range of empirical facts within a coherent and systematic descriptive framework. Its approach is similar to the one adopted in the course. It incorporates insights from the theoretical literature and presents them in an accessible way. It includes much more explanation of grammatical terms and concepts than other descriptive grammars of the type. The emphasis is on syntactic analysis and justification is often given for the ways in which the analysis differs from traditional grammars. Frequent reference will be made throughout the course to specific aspects of the content of this grammar.

Katamba, F. (1993) Morphology. MacMillan Press: London.

Kilby, D. (1984) Descriptive Grammar and the English Verb. London: Croom Helm

This book focuses on the syntax of the English verb and it is particularly recommended for its account of transitivity and phrasal and clausal complementation. The author is concerned with presenting the complexity and variability of linguistic structures and with showing how descriptive techniques can be used to gain insight into them.

Levin, B. (1993) English Verb Classes and Alternations. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

This book offers a classification of over 3,000 English verbs according to their semantic and syntactic properties with respect to a wide variety of syntactic alternations that reflect verb meaning. It will be used in Topic 5

Radford, A. (1988) Transformational Grammar. Cambridge: CUP.

Though this book is mainly concerned with the presentation of a theoretical grammatical framework (Chomsky's generative grammar), it covers a wide range of constructions at the descriptive level. It is specially recommended as an introduction to language description (Topics 1 and 2) and for those aspects of grammatical description which require a more abstract and deep analysis, such as verb complementation (Topic 3) and noun complementation (Topic 6). It introduces aspects of grammar that are dealt with in detail in the Syntax course in the 4th year.

Wardaugh, R. (1995) Understanding English Grammar. A Linguistic Approach. Oxford: Blackwell.

A concise descriptive coverage of the English grammar and an introduction to major theoretical issues presented in a pedagogical way. It partially covers the contents of the course and it does not go into much detail, but it is useful as an introductory course to linguistic description and theory.

Other useful references

Biber et al. (1999) Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English. London: Longman.

Brinton, L. J. (2000) The Structure of Modern English. Amsterdam: John Benjamin.

COLLINS (1999) Collins COBUILD English Grammar. London: Collins.

Givón, T. (1993) English Grammar. Amsterdam: Rodopi.

Haegeman, L. & J. Guéron (1999) English Grammar: A Generative Perspective. Oxford: Blackwell.

Huddleston, R. (1988) English Grammar: An Outline. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

Topic 1: THE GOALS OF GRAMMATICAL DESCRIPTION

1. What type of grammar?
 - 1.1. Pedagogical, Descriptive and Theoretical grammars
 - 1.2. Grammar and competence
 - 1.3. Formal vs. functional approaches
2. What is English?
 - 2.1. Geographical varieties

2.2. Social varieties

Topic 2: BASIC CONCEPTS IN GRAMMAR

1. Grammatical units: morphological and syntactic units
 - 1.1. Prototypicality and grammatical categories
2. Constituents and constituent structure
3. Elements of clause structure

Topic 3: FROM THE LEXICON TO THE GRAMMAR

1. An Introduction to the lexicon
2. Argument Structure
 - 2.1. Arguments vs. adjuncts
 - 2.2. Valency
 - 3.2. Semantic-roles
 - 2.3. Expletive elements
3. Subcategorization
 - 3.1. Complements vs. adjuncts
 - 3.2. The syntactic representation of complements: the category V'
4. Semantic types of predicates and propositions
 - 4.1. States of affairs
 - 4.2. Selectional restrictions
5. Verb types and clause types
 - 5.1. Clauses with intransitive, transitive and ditransitive Vs.
 - 5.2. Clauses with predicative elements
 - 5.3. Copula clauses

Topic 4: SPECIAL VERB-PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS

1. Transitive Verbs + Preposition/Particle
2. Intransitive Verbs + Preposition/Particle
3. Ditransitive Verbs + Preposition/Particle

Topic 5: VERBS AND THEIR ALTERNATIONS

1. Syntactic and lexical processes in verb alternation
2. Transitivity alternations
 - 2.1. Object of transitive = subject of intransitive
 - 2.1.1. Causative alternation
 - 2.1.2. Middle alternation
 - 2.2. Unexpressed object alternation
 - 2.2.1. Unspecified Object alternation
 - 2.2.3. Understood reflexive/reciprocal object alternation
 - 2.2.3. Generic object alternation
 - 2.3. Conative alternation
 - 2.4. Alternations in the functional dimension: passives and ergatives
3. Alternations involving arguments within the VP
 - 3.1. Dative alternation
 - 3.2. Benefactive alternation
 - 3.3. Locative alternation
4. Oblique subject alternations
 - 4.1. Time subject
 - 4.2. Natural force subject
 - 4.3. Instrument subject
 - 4.4. Abstract cause subject
 - 4.5. Locatum vs. location subject

5. Other constructions
 - 5.1. Cognate objects
 - 5.2. Light verbs

Topic 6: NOUNS AND NOUN PHRASES

1. Aspects of Noun Morphology
 - 1.1. Number and Subject-Verb agreement
 - 1.2. Gender
 - 1.3. Derivational suffixes for Noun formation
2. Specifiers in the Noun Phrase
 - 2.1. Predeterminers
 - 2.2. Central determiners
 - 2.3. Postdeterminers
3. Modifiers in the Noun Phrase: N'
 - 3.1. Evidence for the category N' with respect to postmodification
 - 3.2. Complements and adjuncts in postmodification
 - 3.3. Complements and adjuncts in premodification
 - 3.4. The representation of complements and adjuncts in the Noun Phrase
4. Case: The Genitive
 - 4.1. The genitive as a specifier: NP---> NP's N'
 - 4.2. The genitive as a modifier: N' ---> NP's N'
 - 4.3. The syntactic representation of genitive NPs

Topic 7: LEXICAL WORD-FORM

1. Minor word-formation processes
 - 1.1 Manufacture
 - 1.2 Initialism
 - 1.3 Clipping
 - 1.4 Blending
 - 1.5 Back-formation
 - 1.6. Phonological modification
2. Conversion
 - 2.1. Nouns and verbs
 - 2.2. Adjectives and nouns
 - 2.3. Adjectives and verbs
3. Compounds
 - 3.1. Compound nouns
 - 3.2. Compound adjectives
 - 3.3. Compound verbs
4. Some issues on derivation