

Ling 220B: Syntax and Semantics II
Spring 2016 (v. 2.22.2016)

Meetings: Tu/Th 9:30–11am, 1303 Dwinelle
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Description This course will survey major developments in generative syntax and semantics through the lens of binding phenomena in English and across languages. We will begin by studying the earliest unified treatments of binding and major developments through GB. We will then pick up several major strands of research since then, focusing particular attention on challenges for classical binding theory posed by different languages. These include languages such as Thai and Zapotec which are claimed to lack Condition C, the distribution and analysis of logophoric pronouns in African and East Asian languages, and Austronesian languages such as Balinese in which binding has been claimed to be based on argument structure. More general issues that the course will engage include the notion of explanation in different stages in the development of generative grammar, the tension between syntactic and semantic explanations of binding phenomena, and cross-framework debates between proponents of HPSG and GB/MP about the proper explanation of binding phenomena.

Requirements You will be expected to complete all readings. You should bring a copy of each reading to class, either on your computer or in hard copy, so that we can discuss the paper together. You will be given five homework assignments which will engage and develop the concepts in your readings and in class. Finally, you will write a final paper related to a topic discussed in class.

Week 1 Pronominalization

Lees & Klima 1963, Wasow 1979, ch. 2

Week 2-3 Classical binding theory

Chomsky 1986, pp. 160-204, Lasnik 1989a, ch. 1

HW 1

Week 3.5-6.5 Semantic binding

Grodzinsky & Reinhart 1993; Heim 1998

HW 2

Week 6.5-7 Bad behavior: Epithets, bound R-expressions, imposters

Lasnik 1989b; Lee 2003; Larson 2006; Davis et al. 2007; Collins & Postal 2012; Wang 2009

HW 3

Week 8-9 Exceptional behavior: Exempt & long distance anaphora, logophora

Pollard & Sag 1992; Reinhart & Reuland 1993; Sells 1987; Cole et al. 2006

HW 4

Week 10 The Balinese Bind

Wechsler 1998; Levin 2014; Rooryck & Vanden Wyngaerd 2011, ch. 1-2

Week 11-12 Binding together: Reciprocals and plural binding
Heim et al. 1991; Murray 2008

HW 5

Week 13 History repeats itself: Precede-and-(phase)-command again?
Bruening 2014; Zwart 2015

Week 14 Presentations of final papers

References

- Bruening, Benjamin. 2014. Precede-and-command revisited. *Language* 91. 342–388.
- Chomsky, Noam. 1986. *Knowledge of language: Its nature, origin, and use*. New York: Praeger.
- Cole, Peter, Gabriella Hermon & C. T. James Huang. 2006. Long-distance binding in Asian languages. In Martin Everaert & Henk van Riemsdijk (eds.), *The Blackwell companion to syntax: Volume iii*, 21–85. Blackwell.
- Collins, Chris & Paul M. Postal. 2012. *Imposters: A study of pronominal agreement*. MIT Press.
- Davis, Henry, Ryan Waldie & Rachel Wojdak. 2007. Condition C effects in Nuu-chach-nulth. *Canadian Journal of Linguistics* 52. 185–222.
- Grodzinsky, Yosef & Tanya Reinhart. 1993. The innateness of binding and coreference. *Linguistic inquiry* 24. 69–101.
- Heim, Irene. 1998. Anaphora and semantic interpretation: A reinterpretation of Reinhart's approach. In *The interpretive tract*, vol. MIT Working Papers in Linguistics 25, 205–246. MIT Press.
- Heim, Irene, Howard Lasnik & Robert May. 1991. Reciprocity and plurality. *Linguistic Inquiry* 22(1). 63–101.
- Larson, M. 2006. The Thais that bind: Principle C and bound expressions in Thai. In Christopher Davis, Amy Rose Deal & Yuri Zabbal (eds.), *Proceedings of NELS 36*, 427–440.
- Lasnik, H. 1989a. *Essays on anaphora*. Dordrecht: Kluwer.
- Lasnik, Howard. 1989b. On the necessity of binding conditions. In *Essays on anaphora*, chap. 9, 149–167. Kluwer.
- Lee, F. 2003. Anaphoric R-expressions as bound variables. *Syntax* 6. 84–114.
- Lees, R. B. & Esward S. Klima. 1963. Rules for English pronominalization. *Language* 39. 17–28.
- Levin, Theodore. 2014. Untangling the Balinese bind: Binding and voice in Austronesian. *Proceedings of the 31st West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics* 295–304.

- Murray, Sarah E. 2008. Reflexivity and reciprocity with(out) underspecification. *Proceedings of Sinn und Bedeutung* 12. 455–469.
- Pollard, Carl & Ivan Sag. 1992. Anaphors in English and the scope of the binding theory. *Linguistic Inquiry* 23. 259–292.
- Reinhart, Tanya & Eric Reuland. 1993. Reflexivity. *Linguistic Inquiry* 24. 657–720.
- Rooryck, Johan & Guido Vanden Wyngaerd. 2011. *Dissolving binding theory*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Sells, Peter. 1987. Aspects of logophoricity. *Linguistic Inquiry* 18. 445–479.
- Wang, Chyan-an Arthur. 2009. Some notes on chinese imposters. *NYU Working Papers in Linguistics 2: Papers in Syntax*.
- Wasow, T. 1979. *Anaphora in Generative Grammar*. Ghent: E. Story-Scientia.
- Wechsler, Stephen. 1998. HPSG, GB, and the Balinese bind. In G. Webelhuth, A. Kathol & J.-P. Koenig (eds.), *Lexical and constructional aspects of linguistic explanation*, 179–195. Stanford, CA: CSLI.
- Zwart, Jan-Wouter. 2015. Precede-and-command revisited revisited. *Language* 91(3). 169–178.