Topics:

General Topics: Universal Grammar, Parameters, Constituency, Displacement, the model of the grammar

Global Questions: How are linguistic structures built? Where do linguistic principles apply (at D-structure, S-structure, and LF or only at LF)?

X-bar theory: specifiers vs. complements, arguments vs. adjuncts, similarities between nominal and sentential structure


Binding Theory: Conditions A, B, and C, the role of structural relationships such as c-command, the role of locality, binding domains

A-movement: Raising movement, distinction between raising and control, PRO and pro, Movement in Passives, Burzio’s Generalization. Case as motivation for movement.

Head-movement: the English auxiliary system, English vs. French, V2 in Germanic languages. Nature of constraints on movement. Locality effects on movement - relativized minimality effects.


Reference texts:

Requirements: vigorous participation in class discussion, regular homework assignments, one mid-term exam and a final exam.
Grading will based on: class participation (10%), homework exercises (40%, approximately one a week), a midterm exam (20%), and a final exam (30%). Both the exams will be take home exams. Homeworks will be discussed during office hours.

Disabilities: The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY. If you have documents from the Office of the Dean of Student Services for Students with Disabilities, I will be happy to discuss with you what accommodations are necessary for doing the work in the course.