

Japanese 602 Japanese Syntax, Semantics, and Pragmatics

Spring 2006

John Haig

TR 1:30-2:45

In spite of the course title, the primary focus will be on syntax. There may arise other phenomena that could be dealt with equally well (or maybe better) in a pragmatic or other approach, but, aside from mentioning this where appropriate, the focus will be on syntax – in fact, on a particular approach to syntax. The syntactic theory that has come to be assumed as background for most articles appearing in journals in the field today, frequently including articles that are cast in another theory or that support other theories, is the Government and Binding framework developed by Noam Chomsky and his students over the past decade or so (along with its many extensions and variants). This is not to say that it is necessarily the best theory or that it succeeds where others fail. Rather, it has come to be regarded as the theory that everyone knows to some extent and other theories and suggestions for modification of GB theory are often presented in the literature on the assumption that the reader is already familiar with this core theory. In this course, we will study this framework and attempt to apply its concepts to Japanese. At times reference will also be made to other theories, contrasting the assumptions and emphases of these other theories with those of GB.

There will be exercises for each chapter in the text, some from the text and some created by the instructor. In addition, there will be a midterm, a final, and a short paper. The paper should be a critical review of an article from a recent (within the last 15 years) linguistics journal, festschrift, or proceedings applying GB in any of its variations to the analysis of Japanese.

Text:

Haegeman, Liliane. (1994). *Introduction to the Government and Binding Theory: Second Edition*. Blackwell Publishers.

Grading:

Homework Exercises:.....	20%
Midterm.....	25
Paper:.....	20
Final.....	35

Instructor:

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Office Hours:MWF 9:30-10:20, or by appointment

Schedule for Spring, 2006

Week of:

1/9/06	Chapters 1,2
1/16	Chapter 2, Fukui
1/23	Chapter 3
1/30	Chapter 3, Kuroda
2/6	休講 We need to find a way to make up the week.
2/13	Chapter 4
2/20	Chapter 5
2/27	Chapter 6
3/6	Chapter 7
3/13	Chapter 7, Midterm (take home)
3/20	Spring Break
3/27	Chapter 8
4/3	Chapter 9
4/10	Chapter 9
4/17	Chapter 10
4/24	Chapter 11
5/1	Chapter 12

Final Exam (take home) due 5/12

Note: This schedule is tentative. We may move more quickly or more slowly at times, depending on the class. Also, there will be readings from 三原憲一's 日本語の統語構造.