

Building Syntax

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This course will cover, in some detail, material in Borer (2013), Chapters 1 and 6-9, focusing on the nature of categorial determination (primarily Chapter 7), on the properties of functors and extended projections (primarily Chapters 1 and 6), and on the properties of roots (primarily Chapter 8). Once these pieces are in place, we will be in a position to discuss the domain of non-compositional word Content (encyclopedic meaning), discussed primarily in Chapter 9.

If you have access to the book, and are able to read the relevant chapters, that would be excellent. However, and since that is quite a bit of reading, enclosed are three papers which summarize at least some of that material (all available for download at <https://qmul.academia.edu/HBorer>):

Borer, Hagit (2013) 'The syntactic domain of Content,' in Becker, M, J. Grinstead and J. Rothman, Eds., *Generative Linguistics and Acquisition: Studies in honor of Nina M. Hyams*. John Benjamins

Borer, Hagit (2014) 'Derived nominal and the domain of Content,' *Lingua* 141 (2014) pp 71-96

Borer, Hagit (to appear) 'The category of roots,' in Alexiadou, A. H. Borer and F. Schaffer Eds., *The Roots of Syntax, the Syntax of Roots*. Oxford: OUP Press.

"Categorizing roots" covers material otherwise discussed in Chapter 7, "Derived nominals and the Domain of Content" touches on matters discussed primarily in Chapter 9, but also in other chapters (including Chapters 3-5), and "The Syntactic Domain of Content" touches on matters that are relevant to Content specifically within the domain of compounds, but which are otherwise not included in Borer (2013).

Each of these papers reviews in some detail other approaches and it is highly recommended that you take the time to consult the sources directly. Specifically, I will spend some time discussing the following publications:

Acquaviva, Paolo. (2008). 'Roots and lexicality in Distributed Morphology', MS., available at: <http://ling.auf.net/lingBuzz/000654/> (Accessed: 5 October 2012).

Arad, Maya. (2003). 'Locality constraints on the interpretation of roots', *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 21:737-78.

Chomsky, Noam. (1970). 'Remarks on nominalization', in Jacobs, R. A. and P.S. Rosenbaum (eds.) *Readings in English Transformational Grammar*. Waltham, MA: Ginn, 184-221.

Embick, David (2003) 'Locality, listedness, and morphological identity,' *Studia Linguistica*, 57(3), pp.143-169.

Halle, Morris and Alec Marantz. 1993. "Distributed Morphology and the pieces of inflection." In Hale, Kenneth and S. Jay Keyser. Eds. 111-176.

Harley, Heidi (to appear) "On the Identity of Roots," *Theoretical Linguistics*

Kiparsky, Paul. 1982. *Lexical morphology and phonology*. Linguistics in the morning calm: Selected essays from SICOL-1981. Ed. by Linguistic Society of Korea. Seoul, South Korea: Hanshin.

Nunberg, Geoffrey, Ivan Sag and Thomas Wasow. 1994. "Idioms." *Language* 70: 3, 491-593

Most of these are easily available in the public domain. Enclosed, for ease of access, are Chomsky (1970) and Harley (to appear).

Course plan

Please note that while this is the general plan, depending on the nature of the attendance and the discussions, changes in order, focus, and coverage may become necessary

Class one: Categorizing (article)

Class two: roots, Content and compounds (article)

Classes three, four: Content, argument structure, and derived nominals ; content and spellout

Class five: building blocks (roots, functors and extended projections); locality