More advanced syntax (24.955)

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Instructors
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Course website: http://stellar.mit.edu/S/course/24/fa12/24.955/

Course description
More advanced syntax is a biennial course required for students who intend to graduate in the five-year syntax program, though everybody is welcome to join us. In addition, students who are still looking for a generals paper topic may find this class useful as a wide variety of empirical domains is reviewed.

The topics covered, lasting one or two weeks, will be amongst those not addressed in the first-year syntax classes from the previous two years. We have already selected tentative topics for the entire semester, but we are open to including a few based on requests from registered students. The course requirements are: active participation, doing the readings, and three snippets based on topics covered, two of which are due in the course of the semester.

Course requirements
1. Doing the readings
2. Participating actively in class
3. Three snippets, due by email on October 10, November 13, and December 19

What is a snippet?
The minimum requirement for the three written assignments is a snippet. A snippet is a short (2–3 pp.) discussion of a single empirical or analytical point, written in continuous, polished prose with complete references and citations. For some examples, see the online journal Snippets (http:
We have been thinking of the following additional topics to round out the semester, though we are open to suggestions:

- clausal arguments
- asymmetric conjunction
- wh-expletives and partial wh-movement
- external possession and possessor raising
- reconstruction (in all movements)
- gerunds and nominalization