



# **MASENO UNIVERSITY**

## **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017**

### **FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN LINGUISTICS**

#### **MAIN CAMPUS**

#### **ALN 801: MORPHOLOGY**

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2016

Time: 12.00 - 3.00pm

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#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer Question ONE and any other TWO.

Q.1. Describe the relationship between morphology and the following levels of linguistic analysis with data from diverse languages:

(i) Phonology (10 marks)

(ii) Syntax (10 marks)

(iii) Semantics (10 marks)

Q.2. Discuss the major propositions of lexical morphology (15 marks)

Q.3. Illustrate how you would apply the first three principles of Eugene Nida (1982) to discover the morphemes of a language (15 marks)

Q.4. With examples, distinguish clearly between isolating, agglutinating and synthetic morphological structures (15 marks)

Q.5. Illustrate the processes and products of inflectional and derivational morphological processes (15 marks)



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**ALN 802: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN GRAMMATICAL  
THEORIES**

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2016

Time: 8.30 - 11.30 am

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**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer question ONE and any other TWO questions.



AEN 802 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN GRAMMATICAL THEORY

Instructions: Answer Question 1 and any other TWO.

1. With reference to argument structure, discuss how syntactic derivation is a function of morphology. (30 marks).
  
2. Explain how any FOUR empty categories in English are licensed in English syntax. (20 marks).
  
3. Explain how the Government and Binding Theory differs from Phrase Structure Grammar (20 marks)
  
4. Discuss how the Minimalist Program reduces redundancy in syntactic theory. (20 marks).
  
5. Discuss the central concerns of Functional Grammar. (20 marks)



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#### **MAIN CAMPUS**

#### **ALN 803: GENERATIVE PHONOLOGY**

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2016

Time: 12.00 - 3.00pm

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#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer Question ONE and any other TWO.

**Q1. a)** Examine the contribution of the concepts of Naturalization of Contrasts and Pseudodifferentiation in the understanding of Generative phonology.

(10 marks)

b) Discuss why it may be argued that autosegmental phonology is a notational variant of prosodic phonology.

(20 marks)

**Q2.** In what way does generative phonology attain greater explanatory adequacy than earlier structural approaches to phonological theory. (15 marks)

**Q3.** Explain why the phoneme may be described as a class of phonetically similar sounds in complementary distribution. (15 marks)

**Q4.** Explain the centrality of Chomsky and Halle's (1997) notion of distinctive features in the study of phonology. (15 marks)

**Q5.** Provide examples from languages known to you to illustrate how metrical and CV Phonology are significant constituents of Generative Phonology. (15 marks)



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#### **MAIN CAMPUS**

#### **ALN 804: RESEARCH METHODS I**

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2016

Time: 8.30 - 11.30am

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#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer Question ONE and any other TWO.



1. Design a sample questionnaire to research an aspect of language as used by a target sample. (30 mks)

2. Explain how the following are arrived at and indicate their significance in linguistic study:

a) Range

b) Mean

c) Median

(15 mks)

3. Assess the significance of any THREE sampling techniques in linguistic research. (15 mks)

4. With appropriate examples, explain the following:

a) Case study

b) Content Analysis

c) Triangulation

(15 mks)

5. Distinguish between Qualitative and Quantitative research, indicating their relevance in linguistic research. (15 mks)