HSSP - How English Works: Introduction to Syntax

July 7

The study of syntax and the parts of speech

- Introduction to syntax and the notion of grammaticality
- Parts of speech (what is a noun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition)?
- Constituency

July 14

Phrase structure rules and tree structure

- Phrase structure rules and constituency
- Drawing trees and the X-bar schema

July 21

Binding theory

- Principle A, B, and C
- binding and c-command

July 28

Complementizers and wh-movement

- The notion of C
- Phrasal movement and *wh*-movement

August 4

Head movement and do-support

- Head movement
- T-to-C movement in matrix and embedded questions
- The rule behind *do*-support

August 11

A head-final language: Japanese

- The syntax of Japanese
- Head-initial vs. head-final and SVO vs. SOV
- *Wh*-movement vs. *wh* in situ

August 18

English within Germanic: On V2

- The syntactic differences between English and other Germanic languages
- The rule of verb-second and SOV in German
- V-to-T movement