

UNACCUSATIVITY DIAGNOSTICS IN ENGLISH

Elective

2020/2021

spring semester

Instructor: Larisa Avram

Prerequisite: Concepts of Modern Linguistics, The Syntax of the Verb Phrase

This course provides an introduction to unaccusativity with special emphasis on unaccusativity diagnostics in English. It examines a wide variety of empirical data with a view to testing the descriptive adequacy of the analyses proposed in the existing literature to account for the observed phenomena. Topics include: (i) approaches to unaccusativity; (ii) surface unaccusativity diagnostics in English; (iii) deep unaccusativity diagnostics in English.

Grading policy: Students will take 3 quizzes which will each weigh 30% of the final grade. The quizzes will be cumulative but the questions will focus on recent material. Class attendance: 10%.

Maximum number of students: 40