

# Final Project

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**DUE DATE:** 4 September 2008 (in English Department mailbox 27)

**READ** Falk (in preparation) “Islands: Pragmatics and F-Structure” (available on the course web site)

## QUESTION

This paper proposes a theory of islands within LFG in which syntactic constraints on the *wh* path are grammaticalizations of pragmatic and other non-syntactic constraints.

Write a short paper (approx. 3–5 pages) discussing the following aspects of the reading:

- ① Most approaches to island constraints assume a relatively uniform account of island constraints. This paper proposes a mixed account in which some island constraints are purely pragmatic and others have been grammaticized. Which kind of approach do you think is preferable: a uniform one or a mixed one?
- ② How does the theory proposed in the paper strike a balance between too much universality and too little universality in islands. How does this compare with standard LFG accounts of islands?
- ③ How does the paper deal with the varying islandhood judgments in adjuncts?
- ④ How does the formal LFG account proposed in the paper compare with other LFG formalizations mentioned in the paper (Kaplan-Zaenen and Dalrymple)?
- ⑤ Anything else you consider relevant.