



MASENO UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2017/2018

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

MAIN CAMPUS

ALN 802: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN GRAMMATICAL THEORIES

Date: 5th March, 2018

Time: 2.00 - 5.00pm

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer Question ONE and any other TWO



1. With illustrations from a language whose syntax you are familiar with, discuss the syntax of any FOUR empty categories. **(30 marks)**
2. State the theta theory criterion and, with clear illustrations, explain its relevance to argument structure. **(15 marks)**.
3. State the three principles of the Binding Theory and explain how they apply in the analysis and interpretation of Determiner Phrases in syntactic structure. **(15 marks)**
4. With relevant examples, explain how X-bar theoretic terms accommodate the concept of functional categories in syntactic theory. **(15 marks)**
5. Briefly explain the various stages the generative enterprise in syntactic theory has undergone since Chomsky (1957) to date. **(15 marks)**