

Robert Johnson
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afternoons to 5 PM.

Advanced Grammar

Spring 2021, Section X20 Online

Syllabus

Texts:

Fish. *How to Write a Sentence and How to Read One*. Harper (978-0-06-184053-1) (Abbreviated *Fish* in class materials)

Kolln, Gray, Salvatore. *Understanding English Grammar*. Pearson (978-0-401418-0) (Abbreviated *UEG* in class materials)

Required Additional Materials:

Access to word-processing and MS WORD

Course Goals:

Discussion and practice of techniques for the grammatical analysis of English sentence structures.

Course Requirements:

To create the class grade, we will write four unit exams (for 80% of the grade) and compose a class-project essay (worth 20%)

When an exam is scheduled, you will receive from me, as e-mail attachment sent to your D2L address, a file containing the exam. You then will have twenty-four hours to open the file, type out your best answers, save those answers, and return them to me as an e-mail attachment sent to my MSU Texas address: robert.johnson@msutexas.edu. Given that exams will be written remotely, with access to the text, I will have to expect full, polished, and thoughtful answers, not cut-and-paste. In addition, exams will be sent in WORD format and must be returned in that same format. NOTE: We will discuss proper formats for sentence diagrams when we study chapter three in *UEG*.

Grading Policy:

The final mark will be based on the total points earned: *A* = 100 to 90 points total; *B* = 89 to 80; *C* = 79 to 70; *D* = 69 to 60; *F* = 59 to 0. Please recall that, given our university's catalog definition, "satisfactory" written work will be awarded a *C* grade.

Final Examination:

We will have no comprehensive exam.

Submission and Format Policy:

Typed, written work will be submitted in MLA format.

By enrolling in this class, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" to all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

Note: A student may not submit for a grade in this class a paper that already has been (or will be) submitted for a grade in another course, unless the writer obtains (in advance) explicit written permission from all instructors involved.

Attendance/Participation Policy:

Instructor will expect regular attention to the study materials and that all class members will be sending e-mailed questions.

Additional Information:

The English Department's home page can be located at <<https://msutexas.edu/academics/libarts/english/index.php>>. Resources for many ENGL courses can be found at that home page, under "Courses."

Plagiarism Policy:

In this class, we will define plagiarism as the use of someone else's thoughts, words, ideas, or lines of argument in one's own work without appropriate documentation (a parenthetical citation at the end and a listing in "Works Cited," speaker tags and credentials as needed), whether that material is used in a quotation, paraphrase, or summary. Plagiarism is a theft of intellectual property and will not be tolerated, intentional or not.

In any cases when the instructor suspects the use of uncredited sources on the class essay or exams, a zero will be awarded as grade and the writer invited to discuss the composition of the materials at hand.

Late Paper and Assignment Policy:

Late work will not be accepted unless specific arrangements have been made with the instructor beforehand.

Instructor Accessibility:

Your instructor asks that you contact him by department or D2L e-mail. Any discussion of grades will be handled by D2L.

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other provisions, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. Any student who believes

she or he has a disability requiring an accommodation should contact the Disability Support Services in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center, 397-4140.

Safe-Zones Statement:

The professor considers this classroom to be a place where everyone will be treated with respect—regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Additionally, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided everyone can agree to disagree. The professor expects that all students will consider the classroom a safe environment.

Learning Center:

Students should begin drafting the class-project essay as early as possible and take advantage of the university's available tutorial help. For information, please look here: <https://msutexas.edu/academics/tasp/>. I am available, of course, as well, for writing help though I cannot provide line-editing.

MSU Campus-Carry Statement:

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective 1 August 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at <http://mwsu.edu/campus-carry/rules-policies>.

Other Policies:

Please remember that this is a 3000-level class. Something will need to be done almost every day. If you normally wait and prepare work only when it is due, please realize that such a strategy could well lead to one's failing this course. In some cases, members who choose not to access the class texts or to take notes also have found that their choices have led to failure.

Midterm Grade:

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the instructor for this class will provide a Midterm Progress Report (a mid-term grade). Midterm grades will not be reported on the students' transcript; nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at the midpoint of the semester. Students earning below a C at the midway point should contact the professor.

Daily Schedule:

Please see the attached assignment list.