

ENGL 3513
Advanced Grammar
Fall 2022

Instructor: Geoffrey Clegg
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Phone: email preferred
Office Hours: M/W/F 9:00-9:50 am, 12:00-2:00 pm
T/R 9:30-10:45 am, 12:00-2:00 pm
Or by appointment

Texts:

- (1) Sullivan, Nancy. *Essential Grammar for Today's Writers, Students, & Teachers*. Taylor & Francis. ISBN: 9780367148683
- (2) Associated readings listed on D2L.

Required Additional Materials:

Access to Microsoft Word or Google Docs. Access to Adobe Acrobat for PDFs.

You might find https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Wiktionary:Main_Page to be your new friend too.

Course Goals:

Discussion and practice of techniques for the grammatical analysis of English language structures. Particularly, we will exam the micro-units of language. syntax, and the problems of modern English grammar.

While you do not need to be an ELAR major to take this class, we will cover grammatical pedagogy. General English majors may find this useful if they ever decide to teach ESL or EFL in their lives.

Please remember that the study of language is not meant to be intimidating.

Course Requirements:

Quizzes	(4)	TBD
Tests	(3)	TBD
Final Exam		100 points
In-class exercises & participation		50 points
Short Paper		100 points

Quizzes:

You will have four quizzes throughout the semester that tests what we have covered in class. All material will be drawn from grammatical instruction

conducted throughout the week. Quizzes will be between 10-15 questions to test knowledge and help identify any issues you will need to work on.

Tests:

Tests will be a combination of old material drawn from the quizzes and new material covered since the last quiz.

Final Exam:

It's what it sounds like: a final exam that tests your acquisition of class material. It will be a combination of old material from the quizzes/tests as well as new material.

In-class Exercises & Participation:

You're expected to ask questions and participate in class. Sometimes, we will focus on in-class activities that will ask you to think of a creative way to solve a grammatical problem or to teach us a new way of thinking about a grammatical mistake.

Short Paper:

This course will require one short paper (4-5 pages, double-spaced, MLA format) that asks you to read the debates concerning grammar and writing instruction in the field of writing studies.

To do so, you will find 4-5 articles on JSTOR from either *College English*, *College Composition and Communication*, or the *English Journal*. These articles must be different from the weekly readings we cover in class, although you can refer to them in your paper. However, you must pick new readings. An assignment sheet will be posted on D2L a few weeks before it is due.

Grading Policy:

The final mark will be based on the average of your total work: A = 100 to 90; 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.

Submission and Format Policy:

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.

Attendance Policy:

Instructor will expect regular attention to the study materials and that all class members will be asking questions. After the first two absences, each additional two will lower the final grade one letter mark. However, as our class will be small, we will be able to shift attendance requirements as we go, so this policy will apply only to required-attendance days.

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 accepted.

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. Considering late-in-term work, we might not have time for such a conversation, and so the grade will stand. Thus, let's quote and cite with care, please.

Late Work Policy:

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

ADA Compliance:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with Advanced Grammar 3 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, 3974140.

Safe-Zones Statement:

The professor considers this class 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 class a safe environment.

TASP 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/campuscarry/rules-policies>.

Tentative Schedule

*There's a chance this schedule will change. Be advised and make notes of any changes.

Week	Topic	Issue	Readings	Assignment
1 8-22	Introduction Grammar basics	History of grammar and instruction	Chapter 1	
2 8-29	Parts of speech	Prescriptive vs Descriptive	Chapt. 2 (41-64)	
3 9-5	Nouns-NP, pronouns	Competence vs performance	Chapt. 5 (129-164)	No class Monday Quiz 1 (fri)
4 9-12	Verbs-VP	Teaching of grammar I	Chapt. 3 (71-84)	Test 1 (fri)
5 9-19	Auxiliaries, modals, tense, and aspect	Teaching of grammar II	Weaver, "Teaching Grammar in the Context of Writing" Flynn, "The Language of Power"	Quiz 2 (fri)
6 9-26	Determiners and Adjectives	Teaching of grammar III	Delpit, "Acquisition of Literature Discourse"	Quiz 3 (fri)
7 10-3	Prepositions-PP Adverbs	Teaching of grammar IV	NCTE, "Students Right to Their Own Language"	
8 10-10	Intro to Syntax	Why sentences?	Duncan (2007) "Whatever happened..."	Test 2 (fri)

9 10-17	Sentence structures I	Chomsky trees	Connors (2000) "Erasure"	Quiz 4 (fri)
10 10-24	Sentence Structures II	Chomsky trees vs Kellogg-Root	Barnard. "The Ruse of Clarity"	Short Paper Assigned
11 10-31	Dialectal Englishes I	Standard American English	Matsuda (2006) "Myth"	
12 11-7	Dialectal Englishes II	UnStandard American Englishes	Lindbloom & Dunn "Analyzing Grammar Rants" Marshall "To Correct or Not Correct"	Test 3 (fri)
13 11-14	How to grade writing errors	How do we fix errors? How do we communicate error? Why do we care?	Connors & Lunsford "Teachers' Rhetorical Comments on Student Papers"	Short Paper due by Wednesday
14 11-21	Thanksgiving:	Eat	Some	Food
15 11-28	Final prep and review	Review		Final Exam