## ENG 301 01W 21404: Modern Grammar
## Spring 2020



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| **Instructor:** | Christian F. Hempelmann |
| **Office:** | Talbot Hall of Languages 226 |
| **Office Hours:** | *online* workdays 10am–10pm |
| | *office* T 10am–12noon and by appt. |
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### COURSE INFORMATION

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**Materials**
*Required textbooks*:
- none

*Required reading:*
- texts will be made available on D2L
- lecture videos and slides will be made available on D2L

If you want to own a book that has some but not all of the ideas presented in the course, you may purchase this book:

> Brown, S., Attardo, S., & Vigliotti, C. (2014). *Understanding language structure, interaction, and variation* (3rd ed.). Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press.

For an accessible linguistic description of the grammar of modern English, you can also consult:

> Greenbaum, S. & Quirk, R. (1999). *A student's grammar of the English language*. London: Longman.

**Course Description**

This course guides students through the analysis of the sentence-level grammar of English employing contemporary as well as more traditional methodologies. It emphasizes the relationship between the structure of language and that of everyday experience and develops an appreciation of change and variation. Specifically, a great part of the work is focused on identifying, analyzing, and using the parts of speech and the units of discourse of the English language in context. The primary goal is to foster the realization that English grammar is a system, whose purpose is to encode several kinds of meaning. In response to the overarching question, "How does the system of English grammar work," this course will address three main aspects: applied grammar, theoretical grammar, and social variations relating to grammar. Students will learn how to handle grammatical rules and their "exceptions" by approaching them through heuristics, particularly how to observe those mechanisms in actual texts. Students will also be guided to recognize the ambiguities and multiple possible interpretations of constructions.

**Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes**

Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of the social, historical, and pedagogical issues surrounding grammar. The course objectives include the following:

- Students will be familiar with the history of the development of grammar.
- Students will be familiar with the basic concepts of variationist sociolinguistics as they relate to grammar.
- Students will understand the issues of usage and orthographic conventions.

By the end of this course, students will develop a good grasp of the meta-language of grammar. This general outcome will be assessed in the following three specific areas by evaluation of assignments in the form of multiple-choice assessment quizzes, a mid-term exam, and a final exam.

- Students will be able to identify and manipulate parts of speech and phrases.
- Students will be able to identify and manipulate the different types of clauses and sentences.
- Students will be able to demonstrate their knowledge of language variations, as they relate to grammar.

## Computer and Technologies

This class will be delivered completely online using Desire2Learn Brightspace (D2L), the new Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx.You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. Students are required to have regular access to a computer with an Internet connection. At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. If you experience problems in accessing the course site or have other technological difficulties, please contact the CITE Help Desk at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

## Course Assignments

The following assignments help students achieve the learning outcomes listed above. Detailed information and guidelines for each assignment will be available on the course site. For the course organization, please check the course calendar on the last two pages of the syllabus.

- Meet and Greet (0.5%): Students will self-introduce themselves and greet each other in the discussion forum. They may post about their majors, academic interests, learning/research experiences, their hobbies, etc.
- Quizzes (15%): Students will take quizzes on each unit to demonstrate their knowledge and learning of the course contents about applied grammar. There are up to 12 quizzes in total.
- Discussions (12.5%): Online discussions provide students with opportunities to engage with readings about theoretical grammar, interact, and share insights with the classmates. There are up to 10 discussion activities in total.
- Variation Assignments (8%): Students will complete up to 8 variation assignments in relation to course contents regarding grammar and social variations.
- Assessment Tests (24%): Students will take assessment tests on each unit to demonstrate their learning of course contents in terms of applied grammar, theoretical grammar, and variation. There are 12 tests in total.
- Midterm Exam (15%): The midterm exam is to provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and learning of the topics covered in the first half of the semester. Similar to assessment tests, it will mainly include multiple-choice questions.
- Final Exam (25%): The final exam is to provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge of the topics covered in the entire semester and synthesize their understanding of relevant issues. It will consist of two components: Multiple-choice questions and short essays.

## Course Ground Rules

Being successful in an online course requires self-discipline and high motivation. In this course, all work will be completed through D2L. Access and follow all course instructions found in the content area of the

D2L course. Clicking on each unit's tab on the left navigation bar, you will find an introduction which includes a section called "Activities & Assignment for This Unit", where you will find the list of assignments due for that unit. Please note that assignment due dates are crucial. No delayed assignments will be accepted. You should check the course website frequently for assignments, announcements, and discussions. I strongly recommend dedicating set days/times to completing your work and working in advance so that you are always ahead. In order to achieve the outcomes of the course, you will be involved in a number of different activities. It is fundamental to complete all of the readings and activities on time: the quizzes, the discussions, the assignments, the assessment tests, and the exams. I encourage you to do all the course reading and assignments for each learning module in the order they are presented. Moreover, we are co-constructing our knowledge in the online community. Please be prepared, share thoughtfully, respond respectfully, and engage in all learning processes.

**Grading Scale Summary**
The total score for course assignments is 2000 points.

- Meet and Greet                10 points                0.5%
- Quizzes                       300 points (25x12)       15%
- Discussions                   250 points (25 x10)      12.5%
- Variation Assignments         160 points (20x8)        8%
- Assessment Tests              480 points (40x12)       24%
- Midterm Exam                  300 points               15%
- Final Exam                    500 points               25%

The final grade will be based on the following scale:
A =1801-2000 B=1601-1800 C=1401-1600 D=1200-1400 F= 1199 or below

**Assignment Submissions**
Our workweek runs from Monday to Sunday. Every unit takes 1 week, and you will have assignments/quizzes/discussions/tests/exams on all days, including Saturdays and Sundays. Be aware of the tight schedule. Every unit opens and closes on the date assigned on the course calendar and on our course site on D2L. After the unit closes, you will not be able to access its content. Please make sure to download the materials that you will need for each unit to prepare for your quizzes and exams. All assignments must be submitted to D2L by the designated due date. No late work will be accepted. Variation Assignments should be submitted to the designated submission folders through "Assignments" under "Activities" on D2L.
If you have technical issues in uploading the assignment to the course site, please contact CITE Help Desk at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu and email me at c.hempelmann@tamuc.edu to notify me of the problem.

**General Issues**
Students who have concerns about this course or the instructor should speak to the instructor about those concerns first. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome of that conversation, the next person to talk to is Dr. Hunter Hayes, Department Head of Literature and Languages. Students should contact him via e-mail at Hunter.Hayes@tamuc.edu. If you bypass this chain of command, your concern will be ignored.

Unless stated otherwise the instructor will grade assignments within a week, and respond to emails within one business day. Please refer to the syllabus and/or our myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) course shell before sending an email to your instructor. You may not receive a response if your questions are already answered on the syllabus or on myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace).

When emailing me, you must follow the genre conventions of a formal letter. This includes a subject, a greeting ("Hi, Dr. Hempelmann," for example), specific details and explanation in the body of your email, and a closing ("Thank you, Your Name" for example). Emails must be properly proofread and edited and

contain the course number in the subject. Let's be professional. Each time you send me a new email about a new topic, please compose a new email with a new subject; do not reply to some old email threads unless we discuss the same issue. It can be very confusing and makes it difficult to reply to your emails.

Should you encounter myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments, the following procedure must be followed:

- Report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at 1 -866-656-5511. See myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) Technical Support for more details.
- File the problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number.
- Once you have helpdesk ticket number, email the instructor to inform her of the problem and provide her with the helpdesk ticket number.

Your personal computer and internet access problems are not legitimate excuses for filing a ticket with the myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) Help Desk. Only myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace)-based problems are legitimate reasons to contact the Help Desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for your browser compatibility before the course begins and take the myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) platform.

Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Every student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

This syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

# TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

## Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

## Desktop Support

| Browser | Supported Browser Version(s) | Maintenance Browser Version(s) |
|---|---|---|
| Microsoft® Edge | Latest | N/A |
| Microsoft® Internet Explorer® | N/A | 11 |
| Mozilla® Firefox® | Latest, ESR | N/A |
| Google® Chrome™ | Latest | N/A |
| Apple® Safari® | Latest | N/A |

## Tablet and Mobile Support

| Device | Operating System | Browser | Supported Browser Version(s) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Android™ | Android 4.4+ | Chrome | Latest |
| Apple | iOS® | Safari, Chrome | The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2Lsupports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser. |
| Windows | Windows 10 | Edge, Chrome, Firefox | Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR. |

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
    - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
    - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
    - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
    - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
    - Speakers or headphones.
    - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.
    Pop-ups are allowed.
    JavaScript is enabled.
    Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
    - Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/
    - Adobe Flash Player *(version 17 or later)* https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
    - Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
    - Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

# ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

# COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

## Brightspace Support

### Need Help?
### Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "click here" to submit an issue via email.

### System Maintenance

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

### Interaction with Instructor Statement

I aim to respond to emails within 48h and grade assignments within one week. The best way to reach me is with a professional email that includes "ENG 205" in the subject.

# COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

## Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Students are responsible for attending class and keeping a log of their attendance. Please note that this means that no excuse will be accepted for failure to comply with the class requirements. No make-up quizzes will be given or late assignments accepted. Students needing particular attention should notify the instructor during the first week. If you miss a class you are responsible to receive the information you missed or you have to be prepared for surprises.

## Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## University Specific Procedures

## Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.
http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

## TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

## Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf

## ADA Statement

### 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 things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

# Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

## Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from

discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:
http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

# Tentative Calendar

(due dates by weekday: M, T, W, R, F)

| Week | *Applied Grammar* | **Quiz** | *Theoretical Grammar* | **Discussion** | *Variation Topic* | **Assignment** | **Assess-ment** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Unit 1 (1/13) | Introduction | | Introduction | Meet & greet (initial: T; reply: R) | Introduction | | |
| Unit 2 (1/20) | Coherence and cohesion | Quiz 1 (W) | Linguistics as science | Discussion 1 (initial: T; reply: R) | Writing and speech | Assignment 1 (F) | Test 1 (F) |
| Unit 3 (1/27) | Parts of speech | Quiz 2 (W) | Prescriptive vs. descriptive | Discussion 2 (initial: T; reply: R) | Formal vs. informal | | Test 2 (F) |
| Unit 4 (2/3) | Noun-NP, pronouns | Quiz 3 (W) | Competence vs. performance | Discussion 3 (initial: T; reply: R) | Register | Assignment 2 (F) | Test 3 (F) |
| Unit 5 (2/10) | Verb-VP | Quiz 4 (W) | "Standard" English | Discussion 4 (initial: T; reply: R) | Variation across social strata | No | Test 4 (F) |
| Unit 6 (2/17) | Auxiliaries, modals, tense and aspect | Quiz 5 (W) | History of grammar I: Antiquity and Middle Ages | Discussion 5 (initial: T; reply: R) | Variation across space | Assignment 3 (F) | Test 5 (F) |
| Unit 7 (2/24) | Determiners and adjectives | Quiz 6 (W) | History of grammar II: Renaissance to Chomsky | | Language and gender | Assignment 4 (F) | Test 6 (F) |
| (3/2) | Midterm Exam (3/4) | | | | | | |
| (3/9) | Spring Break | | | | | | |
| Unit 8 (3/16) | Prepositions-PP Adverbs AP | Quiz 7 (W) | History of Grammar III: Case/ functional/cognitive grammar | Discussion 6 (initial: T; reply: R) | Diachrony and Synchrony | Assignment 5 (F) | Test 7 (F) |
| Unit 9 (3/23) | Sentence structure | Quiz 8 (W) | Types of grammar | Discussion 7 (initial: T; reply: R) | Technical-scientific languages | | Test 8 (F) |
| Unit 10 (3/30) | Transitive, intransitive, passive; copular verbs | Quiz 9 (W) | Pedagogy of grammar: L1 & L2 | Discussion 8 (initial: T; reply: R) | Language and age | Assignment 6 (F) | Test 9 (F) |
| Unit 11 (4/6) | Subordination, coordination | Quiz 10 (W) | Sentence Diagramming I | | Interlanguage and nonnative speakers | Assignment 7 (F) | Test 10 (F) |
| Unit 12 (4/13) | Relative clauses | Quiz 11 (W) | Sentence Diagramming II | Discussion 9 (initial: T; reply: R) | Ethnic languages | Assignment 8 (F) | Test 11 (F) |
| Unit 13 (4/20) | Marked construction | Quiz 12 (W) | Usage and punctuation | Discussion 10 (initial: T; reply: R) | | | Test 12 (F) |
| Unit 14 (4/27) | Review | | | | | | |
| Finals Week | Final Exam (5/6) | | | | | | |