



ENG 501.01W Structure of English Language

Instructor: Dr. Mimi Li (Assistant Professor of Applied Linguistics)

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Office hours: Tuesdays 10:30am-12:30pm; others by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is to help you develop a solid understanding of the use and function of grammatical structures in English. It introduces the major syntactic structures of English and the ways to analyze them. Topics include word classes, phrases, functions, clauses, types of verbs, clauses, tense, aspect, and mood. Some general linguistic issues, such as prescriptivism and descriptivism, varieties of English are discussed. Pedagogical aspects of teaching grammar to native and non-native speakers are also addressed.

Catalogue Course Description

A thorough analysis of the grammatical structure of English employing contemporary as well as more traditional methodologies. Emphasis varies among phonology, morphology, syntax, text/discourse analysis, and historical development in the language.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ understand the structure of English both formally and functionally.
- ✓ describe the syntactic nature of English grammar in specific contexts.
- ✓ develop skills in grammatical analysis.
- ✓ understand and explain general issues related to English grammar.

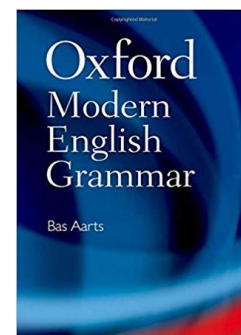
COURSE MATERIALS

Textbook

Aarts, Bas. (2011). *Oxford Modern English Grammar*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (E-book available)

Other materials

Other course information will be available on the course site.



Computer and technologies

This class will be delivered completely online using Desire2Learn Brightspace. 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 posted to the course website.

Online Quizzes (50 points) --- Students will take 10 quizzes to demonstrate their knowledge and learning about the course topics.

Online Discussions (20 points) --- Online discussions provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their learning and ability to apply the course contents. Reading the required texts, supplemented with the personal findings, will help the quality of the contribution that they are able to make. There will be 5 online discussion assignments.

Error Analysis Project (10 points) --- This assignment will give students an opportunity to apply knowledge of English grammar to the analysis and treatment of ESL errors. Collect a writing sample from two ESL students whose English proficiency level is intermediate or below. Analyze the grammar errors in the samples and discuss how the errors would be treated.

Final Exam (20 points) --- The final exam is to provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge of the topics covered in this course and synthesize their understanding of relevant issues.

COURSE/ UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Course Ground Rules

Being successful in an online course requires tremendous self-discipline and high motivation. In this course, all work will be completed through D2L. 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 a day or two ahead. Please note that **assignment due dates are crucial. No delayed assignments will be**

accepted. Moreover, we are co-constructing our knowledge in the online community. Please be prepared, share thoughtfully, respond respectfully, and engage in all learning processes.

I also expect that students will exhibit courtesy toward others in this online class. Courtesy means NOT engaging in online rudeness or refusing to focus on group or class discussion. Courtesy means engaging in such behaviors as listening carefully to others, accepting that various points of views can be valid, maintaining a focus on the discussion in hand and treating others as you wish to be treated.

Grading Scale

The total score for course assignments is 100 points.

Online Quizzes	50 points (5x10)
Online Discussions	20 points (4x5)
Error Analysis Project	10 points
Final Exam	20 points

A =100-90 B=89-80 C=79-70 D=69-60 F= 59 or below

Assignment Submissions

- Our work week runs from Monday to Sunday. For your convenience, however, I release each learning module three days earlier (i.e., Friday) on D2L.
- All assignments must be submitted to D2L by the designated due time (mostly **Sunday** 11:59pm). No late work will be accepted.
- If you have trouble uploading the assignment to the course site, please e-mail your paper to me at mimi.li@tamuc.edu.

Learning Management System D2L (Brightspace)

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 CITE helpdesk or D2L Support.

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, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

- 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.
- 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.

Communication

I encourage you to contact me if you have any questions about this course. Please send messages directly to mimi.li@tamuc.edu. I generally reply email within 24 hours. If you desire an online conference via phone/Skype or face-to-face meeting, please always email me first to set up an appointment.

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 to submit an issue via email.



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: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the following webpages:

<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:

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

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/history/CURRENT%20Students/academicIntegrityPolicy.aspx>

ADA Statement

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 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 COURSE SCHEDULE

Weeks	Topics	Readings & Assignments Due
Week 1 (1/30-2/2)	<i>Course Overview; Short history of English</i>	Aarts, Chapter 1
Week 2 (2/3-2/9)	<i>Word Structure</i>	Aarts, Chapter 2 Quiz 1 (due 2/9)
Week 3 (2/10-2/16)	<i>Word Classes and Phrases</i>	Aarts, Chapter 3 Quiz 2 (due 2/16) Online Discussion 1 (initial post due: 2/13; response due 2/16)
Week 4 (2/17-2/23)	<i>Functions, Semantic Roles, and Tree diagrams</i>	Aarts, Chapter 4 Quiz 3 (due 2/23)
Week 5 (2/24-3/1)	<i>Complex Phrases and Coordination</i>	Aarts, Chapter 5 Quiz 4 (due 3/1) Online Discussion 2 (initial post due: 2/27; response due 3/1)
Week 6 (3/2-3/8)	<i>Clause Types and Negation</i>	Aarts, Chapter 6 Quiz 5 (due 3/8)
Week 7 (3/9-3/15)	<i>Enjoy your Spring Break!</i>	
Week 8 (3/16-3/22)	<i>Finite Subordinate Clauses</i>	Aarts, Chapter 7 Quiz 6 (due 3/22)
Week 9 (3/23-3/29)	<i>Non-finite and verbless subordinate clauses</i>	Aarts, Chapter 8 Quiz 7 (due 3/29) Online Discussion 3 (initial post due: 3/26; response due 3/29)
Week 10 (3/30- 4/5)	<i>Tense and Aspect</i>	Aarts, Chapter 9 Quiz 8
Week 11 (4/6-4/12)	<i>Mood</i>	Aarts, Chapter 10 Quiz 9 Online Discussion 4 (due 4/12)
Week 12 (4/13-4/19)	<i>Information Structuring</i>	Aarts, Chapter 11 Quiz 10 (due 4/19)
Week 13 (4/20-4/26)	<i>Methodologies in grammar teaching</i>	Ellis (2006) Hinkel (2016) Online Discussion 5 (initial post due: 4/30; response due 5/3)
Week 14 (4/27-5/3)	<i>Final review</i>	Project due
Finals week (5/4-5/8)		Final Exam

Note: This is a tentative schedule. The instructor reserves the right to make modifications as needed.