



ENG 501, 01W, 21403 Structure of the English Language

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Salvatore Attardo

Office Location: THL 306

Office Hours: M-TH 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm + 1 hour weekly (schedule via email)

Students schedule through this link only:

<https://calendar.app.google/c24f6NeoM9YUWddz8>

Office Phone: 903-886-5260

Office Fax: 903-886-5980

University Email Address: Salvatore.Attardo@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: within 24 hrs (1 working day; longer if feedback to writing is requested)

Zoom Meeting ID: 645 861 9518

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required: S. Attardo. English Grammar Foundations. Available as pdf in the LMS.

Software Required: Internet access and browser

Optional Texts and/or Materials: other materials will be provided in the course shell.

Course Description

University catalog description: Structure of the English Language. Three semester hours. 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 developments in the language. Prerequisites: there are none.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

This course introduces the major syntactic structures of English and the ways to analyze them. Topics include categories, phrases, functions, types of verbs, clauses, and finiteness. The course stresses that it is more important to be able to argue something than just memorize rules. Some general linguistic issues, such as prescriptivism and descriptivism, varieties of English are discussed as well. This class is fully online. **Because this is a summer semester (10 weeks) the class requires weekly work and assignments.**

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to describe the morphological and syntactic nature of English grammar in specific contexts.
2. Students will be able to develop skills in grammatical analysis, such as identifying parts of speech, analyzing sentences, and identifying and correcting errors.
3. Students will be able to demonstrate understanding in cultural issues related to English grammar.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using the learning management system, using writing software and using presentation programs.

Instructional Methods

This is an online, asynchronous course. All the materials are available online. There is a weekly “flipped classroom” session held on Wednesdays at 5:00-6:00 pm. Attendance is required, either synchronously (during the zoom meeting) or asynchronously (viewing the recording of the zoom meeting later). Attendance of the live session is strongly recommended, but not required.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Weekly assignments are required.

Posting in the Q&A is required between Monday and Thursday of each week. The Q&A score includes class participation. Full engagement in the discussion is required to score 2 points. Instructions on the Q&A are provided in the LMS.

Comprehension review (CR) quizzes are weekly and are required. Instructions on the CRs are provided in the LMS. The CRs open on Friday and close on Saturday.

The viva voce final exam is a 30 minutes in person (via zoom) exam, by appointment.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Instructions on the class project and extra credit are available in the LMS.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

The course uses a point system: 1 point = 1%.

Assessments

	points per assignments	Points
Quizzes (CRs)	12x1	12
Project	13x1	13
Q&A	12x2	24
Introduction	1	1
Viva voce final	50x1	50
Total		100
Extra credit	5x2	10

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

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

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. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I will respond within 24 hours to emails. I am available daily for conferences (office hours) at a mutually convenient time. Please email me to set up an appointment. I can communicate via phone, Skype, or Zoom. If you email me Saturday I may not respond until Monday morning.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late Work, Missed Exams and Quizzes are only acceptable by prior arrangement. Extra Credit is not available due to this being a summer term.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

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 on the LMS.

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: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

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>

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Students with Disabilities-- 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

Waters 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/](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](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.

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AI use in course

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

According to the above policy, any use of AI is strictly forbidden in this course.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Spring 2025 calendar

Unit	Week		CRs	Textbook chapters	Q&A
1	Jan 13–17			Prefaces	ungraded Q&A
2	Jan 20–24			1	1
3	Jan 27–31	20th MLK day		2	2
4	Feb 3–7			3	3
5	Feb 10–14	HRC 14-16		4	4
6	Feb 17–21			5	5
7	Feb 24–28			6	6
8	Mar 3–7			7	7
9	Mar 10–14	Spring break		no class	no class
10	Mar 17–21			8	8
11	Mar 24–28			9	9
12	Mar 31–Apr 4			10	10
13	Apr 7 –11			11	11
14	Apr 14–18			12	12
15	Apr 21–25	Easter Mon 21	Project due April 25	Catch up	no Q&A
16	Apr 28–May 2		Comprehensive Oral exams		
17	May 5 – May 9	Finals week	Graduation May 9		

Q&A open at 00.01 am on the day they become available (Monday) and close at 11:30 pm of the day they are due (Thursday).

CR Quizzes open at 00.01 am and close at 11:30 pm of the day they are due (Friday-Saturday).

The project is due by 11:30pm, on April 25.

All times are Central Standard Time (CST). Please adjust as needed.

A few more thoughts about using Artificial Intelligence in this course

You will probably have heard about ChatGPT4, an artificially “intelligent” chat bot with some remarkable capacities in generating natural sounding text. You may be tempted to use it to help you answer questions in the quizzes or to help with your project. Here are a few reasons not to do it:

I tested ChatGPT4 and while its performance is impressive it is not always accurate. ChatGPT4 make mistakes. If you use ChatGPT4 those mistakes become your mistakes.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

You have to disclose the use of ChatGPT4. If you do not disclose it you are guilty of plagiarism, which carries serious consequences, up to being expelled from the university.

The purpose of the quizzes is to prepare you for the final exam. The final exam is a viva voce (oral) exam in which the instructor will ask you questions and you will need to answer. It is impossible to use ChatGPT4 during the viva. Hence, if you have not studied the material you will fail the final exam.

The terminology and definitions used by ChatGPT4 may differ from those used in this class. The instructor is not responsible for explaining those differences to you (much like if you choose to use a different textbook the instructor is not responsible for explaining the other textbook to you). For example, ChatGPT4 defined on one occasion a prepositional phrase as an adverbial phrase, which would be counted as a mistake in this class, but might be acceptable terminology under other systems.