Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi

ENGLISH 3340.W02 THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: GRAMMAR
Spring 2020

This is an online course with a Monday/Wednesday/Friday schedule.  
Course is delivered totally within TAMUCC Blackboard.

Dr. Nancy Sullivan  
Virtual Office Hours via WebEx meetings (follow this link: https://tamucc.webex.com/meet/sullivan):  
M: 9-10 am; W & F: 8-10 am  
(I am ready/willing/able/happy to meet with you outside of these office hours if arranged in advance.)  
I am available through email as well.

Email: Nancy.Sullivan@tamucc.edu  
Office: I do not have an office at TAMUCC, so all communication must be done electronically.

ENGL 3340 Grammar Tutor, Gabriel Villarreal—hours to be announced

Course Policies for the Online Course

To take this online course, you must  
- be able to use the technologies required to participate effectively in the course,  
- be prepared to begin the course on the first official day of class,  
- adhere to the specific and rigid schedule of deadlines,  
- answer e-mails from the instructor promptly,  
- be responsible,  
- adhere to all college policies, and  
- have the required course materials and necessary computer equipment.

IMPORTANT: Please understand that online courses are not for everyone. Online courses require more self-discipline and ability to work independently than traditional classes. Students should also realize that online courses involve a serious time commitment. If you do not have the necessary skills, equipment, or the time to commit, please wait and take the course during the fall semester in a face-to-face class if possible.

eCommunication

The best way to contact me is through email: Nancy.Sullivan@tamucc.edu. Office hours will be held online using WebEx. All students must have an established WebEx account for Office Hour communication. Access WebEx TAMUCC here: https://iol.tamucc.edu/webex.html. There are videos available to help you with WebEx, but I think you will see that it is rather user friendly.

I will respond to e-mail within a couple of hours if sent between 9 am and 5 p.m. After 5 pm and during the weekends, I do not regularly check email (at least I try not to!). I also expect responses to my emails within 24 hours during the week (and preferably sooner). If you receive an email from me, please respond so I know that you got it. A simple “Got it” or “Received” should be the minimum response.

Course Description

English 3340 provides the teacher trainee and English language student with the fundamentals of English syntax. The course will follow a framework of linguistic and pedagogical concepts intended to provide future teachers with approaches and materials useful for teaching grammar in the elementary or secondary classrooms. This class is also designed to introduce new methods of analyzing the structure of the English language and to enable the student to view her or his own writing and that of published writers with an increased awareness of grammatical structures and choices.

Course Materials

New York, NY: Routledge
For this course we will be using TAMUCC Blackboard. The Blackboard (Bb) site contains the syllabus, homework assignments, relevant links, and many supplemental materials. An easy way to access Bb is to go directly to https://iol.tamucc.edu/ and log in. If you are using your own computer, you need to make sure you have the most recent versions of the necessary software. The browser you use may affect how successfully you view and submit materials. If you are having trouble with Bb, your first attempt at resolving the issue should be changing browsers. Chrome seems to work best. Once you have logged in, you will see a list of all of your courses that have Bb shells. Click on the link with the course title that says “Grammar.”

To help you get started and navigate through Blackboard, go to:
https://iol.tamucc.edu/bb_resources_students.html The Office of Distance Education and Learning Technology can be reached at (361) 825-2122.

For Technical support, contact the university technical services (IT) help desk (361) 825-2692:  https://ithelp@tamucc.edu

Course Objectives

The student will be able to

(1) distinguish between prescriptive and descriptive approaches to the study of grammar.
(2) analyze and describe the syntactic structure of standard American English.
(3) illustrate concepts of traditional and structural models of standard American English.

Student Learning Outcomes

The student will demonstrate

(1) the ability to analyze specific areas of grammar knowledge for both form and function.
(2) an ability to illustrate form/function relationships among syntactic structures.
(3) an understanding of English syntax structures necessary for teaching the required written conventions of the TEKS.

Online Attendance

You are required to log into the course a minimum of three times a week. Try to check your Islander email account daily Monday through Friday.

Assessments

Homework (25 points): Much of the homework consists of completing exercises in the book that are not turned in and are not graded. (Answers are in the back of the book and in a file that I will send to you.) These exercises are important because they prepare you for the quizzes and exams. Twelve homework assignments (posted on Bb) must be turned in. They are 2.5 points each. Late work will not be accepted after the homework has been graded. If your homework is late and the class has not received their homework grades yet, you can turn it in and lose one point for each day past the due date. If students have received feedback on their homework (usually one or two days after due date), you will not be able to turn in your homework, and you will receive a zero. Your two lowest grades are dropped from your final homework grade.

Homework Guidelines:
- Do not submit pictures of your textbook.
- Always submit to Blackboard, in “Write Submission.”
  It is very important to post homework in the correct place; otherwise, I have trouble reading it.
- Do not email me your homework.

Reading Quizzes (25 points): The 13 quizzes will be checkpoints that help you prepare for the exams. These quizzes are 2.5 points each. The first reading quiz will not be counted towards your final grade. It shows you the format of the quiz and gives you one “freebie” for practice. Also, your lowest two reading quiz grades are dropped from your Quiz grade.

Exams (50 points): The exams cover the material from the textbook. Each exam has 20 questions @.5 point each.
There are 5 exams, one for each chapter. The **Final Exam** is an optional replacement exam. If you do not do well on one of the 5 exams, you can choose to replace that exam with the final exam. The final exam is comprehensive and covers material from all 5 chapters. If your grade on the final exam is lower than the one you want to replace, then your original grade is used in the final calculations. The final exam will NOT lower your grade.

**Grading Summary:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (5 @ 20 pts. each)</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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Final grade is calculated as follows: A=100-90; B=89-80; C=79-70; D=69-60; F=below 60

Please note that there are no extra credit assignments at the end of the semester to make up for missed assignments or low grades (see note on Final Exam above).

**General Comments**

This is a required class for many education majors and students pursuing a TESOL Certificate. Learning the correct grammatical terms and forms is essential as you will be applying this knowledge in your own classrooms. The class is not difficult, but it can be challenging. To do well in this class you must simply do the following:

- **Be prepared.** You will not understand the material unless you have done the assigned reading, online practice exercises, and PowerPoints.
- **Do the exercises.** The chapters have numerous exercises. The answers to the first five items are in the back of the book and I will email you the others so you can check your answers and isolate your problem areas. Extra practice exercises are on Bb under Self-Assessments. These are NOT included in your grade.
- **Ask questions.** If you have done the reading and the exercises but still do not fully understand the material, be sure to ask questions.
- **Keep up with assigned work.** Since the exams cover material from the book and homework, **you will succeed only if you keep up with the work.**

**Tentative Course Schedule**

*See Blackboard for Detailed and up-to-date Schedule*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignment due dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introduction + Ch 1, pp. 3-20</td>
<td>HW #1 due 1/24</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/21-1/24</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reading Quiz #1, 1/24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>pp. 21-31</td>
<td>Homework #2 due 1/29</td>
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<td>1/27-1/31</td>
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<td>Reading Quiz #2 1/31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>pp. 31-38</td>
<td>Homework #3 due 2/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3-2/7</td>
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<td>Reading Quiz #3 2/7</td>
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</table>
| Week 4 | 2/10-2/14 | Start Ch 2 pp. 41-58 | Exam #1--2/10  
Homework #4 due 2/12  
Reading Quiz #4 2/14 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Week 5 | 2/17-2/21 | pp. 59-67 | Homework #5 due 2/19  
Reading Quiz #5 2/21 |
| Week 6 | 2/24-2/28 | Start Chapter 3 pp. 71-79 | Exam #2--2/24  
Homework #6 due 2/26  
Reading Quiz #6 2/28 |
| Week 7 | 3/2-3/6 | pp. 80-94 | Homework #7 due 3/4  
Reading Quiz #7 3/6 |
| 3/9-3/13 | | SPRING BREAK! | |
| Week 8 | 3/16-3/20 | Review Chapter 3  
Start Chapter 4 pp. 95-104 | Exam #3--/18 |
| Week 9 | 3/23-3/27 | pp.105-116 | Homework #8 due 3/23  
Reading Quiz #8 3/25  
Homework #9 due 3/27 |
| Week 10 | 3/30-4/3 | pp. 116-124 | Reading Quiz #9 4/1  
Homework #10 4/3 |
| Week 11 | 4/6-4/10 | Chapter 4 review  
Start Chapter 5 pp. 129-149 | Reading Quiz #10 4/6  
Exam #4--4/8  
4/10 LAST DAY TO DROP CLASS |
| Week 12 | 4/13-4/17 | pp. 149-158 | Homework #11 due 4/15  
Reading Quiz #11 4/17 |
Reading Quiz #12 4/24 |
| Week 14 | 4/27-5/1 | Chapter 5 Review exercises | Reading Quiz #13 5/1 |
| Week 15 | 5/4-5/8 | | Exam #5--5/4  
Last day to withdraw from TAMUCC, 5/5  
Final Replacement Exam 5/6 |

**University Policies**

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work). In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in zero points for the assignment/test and potentially larger punitive action as it relates to this class and potentially your standing with the university at large. Working with others on quizzes or exams is an act of academic misconduct.
Dropping a Class

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. **Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course.** Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. April 10 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

Professional Behavior

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, (online) classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be asked to drop the class.

Statement of Academic Continuity

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email.

Disabilities Accommodations

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 believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Grade Appeals

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C0.03, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C0.03, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.

Academic Advising

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

Reminder to English Majors

As part of the English undergraduate capstone course (ENGL 4351), all English majors are required to submit a portfolio of writings in different discourse genres that they have completed for their college classes. To help you prepare for this assignment, you should **keep a copy** of all essays, research papers, literary analyses, creative and report writing, etc., so that you will have an ample selection from which to choose when the portfolio comes due.

Reminder for TESOL Certificate
If you are pursuing a TESOL Certificate, be sure to contact Dr. Shannon Fitzsimmons-Doolan during your final semester of Certificate coursework so that she can inform the registrar that you have completed your requirements and request that they note the certificate on your transcript: Shannon.Fitzsimmons-Doolan@tamucc.edu

**Course Evaluation**

Your constructive assessment of this course plays an indispensable role in shaping education at TAMUCC. Upon completing the course, please take time to fill out the online course evaluation.