

**COURSE DATA****Data Subject**

Code	35347
Name	English syntax
Cycle	Grade
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2023 - 2024

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1000 - Degree in English Studies	Faculty of Philology, Translation and Communication	3	First term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1000 - Degree in English Studies	5 - Linguistics of the English language	Obligatory

Coordination

Name	Department
GREGORI SIGNES, CARMEN	155 - English and German

SUMMARY

The aim of the course is twofold: first, to discuss theoretical issues in grammar, and second, to attain an overview of English syntax. Emphasis will be placed on students' awareness and appropriate use of contemporary English grammar, and it will also involve becoming familiar with new methodologies that may be used for syntactic research today.

The course seeks to provide an introductory description and comprehensive analysis of the syntax of standard English at phrase and sentence levels, without forgetting that syntax and syntactic patterns cannot be analyzed without considering their communicative function, the context, and the co-text in which they are produced.



Thus, although our description of English grammar will focus mainly on simple sentences, it is our intention –following Carter *et al.* (2000) - to introduce a variety of contextualized samples of real written and spoken English. This will allow students to understand that grammar moves beyond the structure of simple sentences.

The subject draws on a combination of morphological and syntactic concepts that will help students to identify and produce different kinds of texts/genre (e.g. novels, newspapers, essays, notes, reports, news, conversations between friends, etc.) successfully. In this way, we shall be using texts not just to illustrate grammar points but as a way of understanding the grammar choices speakers have at their disposal, and why they speak or write the way they actually do.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

Competence to communicate in English at the C1 level (CEFR) will be taken into account in the students' assessment.

OUTCOMES

1000 - Degree in English Studies

- Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.
- Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and have acquired the competences required for the preparation and defence of arguments and for problem solving in their field of study.
- Students must be able to communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.
- Apply ICT and computer programs, either locally or through a network, in the field of English Studies.
- Work and learn autonomously, and plan and manage ones workload.
- Demonstrate communicative and social competence in the English language (oral and written comprehension and expression, communicative interaction and mediation that includes correct grammar and style).



- Describe and explain theoretical and practical aspects of English phonology, lexis, morphology, syntax, text and discourse.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students must have acquired knowledge and understanding in a specific field of study, on the basis of general secondary education and at a level that includes mainly knowledge drawn from advanced textbooks, but also some cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.
- Students must be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and have acquired the competences required for the preparation and defence of arguments and for problem solving in their field of study.
- Students must be able to communicate information, ideas, problems, and solutions to both expert and lay audiences.
- Apply ICT and computer programs, either locally or through a network, in the field of English Studies.
- Work and learn autonomously, and plan and manage one's workload.
- Demonstrate communicative and social competence in the English language (oral and written comprehension and expression, communicative interaction and mediation that includes correct grammar and style).
- Describe and explain theoretical and practical aspects of English phonology, lexis, morphology, syntax, text, and discourse.

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Identify elements and categories in the syntactical levels in different English-language texts
- Explain in English concepts, theories and phenomena related to the syntax of the English language
- Distinguish syntactical traits in varieties of English
- Defend your point of view in issues related to the syntax of the English language
- Use IT tools and resources in the study of the syntax of the English language
- Make use of grammar to explain language usage in specific cases and how grammar contributes to the meaning of sentence and texts
- Assess linguistic correctness in an English-language text and correct its errors

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Discourse, Grammar and Syntax: Basic Concepts



2. Nouns and noun phrases

3. Determiners and pronouns

4. Verbs and verb phrases

5. Prepositions and prepositional phrases

6. Adjectives and adjective phrases

7. Adverbs and adverb phrases

8. Conjunctions, interjections and other minor word classes

9. Syntactic functions of clause elements

10. Sentence and clause structure

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	60,00	100
Study and independent work	60,00	0
Readings supplementary material	5,00	0
Preparation of evaluation activities	5,00	0
Preparing lectures	10,00	0
Preparation of practical classes and problem	10,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	



TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Weekly: 4h lectures (2h+ 2h) in-class activities for 16 weeks which are distributed as follows:

- 1/ 1h ½ entirely devoted to theoretical description* followed by
- 3h in-class activities and theory-based practical sessions

*some units may require more than one hour of theoretical description.

During the lectures the students will be given the necessary theoretical input. This can be complemented by the set text book/dossier and the specific updated bibliography. These references will be made available through the *Aula Virtual* or the photocopying centre (2nd Floor, Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació).

Students are expected to read the material for the unit to be covered in each lecture. Students should also show that they have grasped all the examples that illustrate each point covered in advance.

Students are expected to participate actively in class activities.

Attendance is compulsory.

EVALUATION

80% FINAL EXAM

20% PORTFOLIO

- To pass the subject, students must obtain a minimum of 5 out of 10 in both parts (final exam and portfolio).
- For the assessment students' communicative competence at C1 level will be taken into account. Detection of plagiarism in the exam and the portfolio will result in failing the subject.

Intellectual honesty is vital to an academic community and for the fair evaluation of the student's work. All work submitted in this course must be originally authored by every student. No student shall engage in unauthorized collaboration or make use of ChatGPT or other AI composition software.

REFERENCES

Basic

- Downing, Angela and Philip Locke (Third edition 2006): *A University Course in English Grammar*, London and New York, Routledge.
- Carter, Ronald and Michael McCarthy (2006): *Cambridge Grammar of English: A Comprehensive Guide*, Cambridge University Press (CD-Rom included).



- Huddleston, Rodney and Geoffrey K. Pullum (2002): The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language, Cambridge University Press.
- Huddleston, Rodney and Geoffrey K. Pullum (2005): A Student's Introduction to English Grammar, Cambridge University Press.
- Biber et al. (1999): Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English, London, Longman.
- Tallerman, M. (2015): Understanding Syntax, London, Hodder Education.
- Chalker, S. (1984): Current English Grammar, London, McMillan.

*Class-Notes available from the Photocopying Centre.

**If necessary, teachers reserve the right to update the list of references and course books.

Additional

- AARTS, F. and AARTS, J. 1982. English Syntactic Structures. Oxford: Pergamon.
- BAUER, L. 1983. English word-formation. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- CRYSTAL, D. 1980. "Neglected Grammatical Factors in Conversational English", en S. Greenbaum et al. (eds.) Studies in English Linguistics for Randolph Quirk. London: Longman: 153-166.
- CULICOVER, P.W. 1982. Syntax.. New York: Academic Press.
- DE LA CRUZ, J.M. & TRAINOR, P.M. 1989b. Curso de Sintaxis Inglesa. Madrid: Taurus.
- GREENBAUM, S. & QUIRK, R. 1990 A Student's Grammar of the English Language. London: Longman.
- HEWINGS, M. 1999. Advanced Grammar in Use. (with answers). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- HUDDLESTONE, R.D. 1980. "Criteria for Auxiliaries and Modals", en S. Greenbaum et al. (eds.) Studies in English Linguistics for Randolph Quirk. London: Longman: 65-78.
- HUDDLESTONE, R.D. 1984. Introduction to the Grammar of English. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- HUDDLESTONE, R.D. 1988. English Grammar: An Outline. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- LEECH, G. 1987. Meaning and the English Verb. London: Longman.
- LEECH, G. 1982. English Grammar for Today: A New Introduction.. London: Macmillan.
- LEECH, G. and STARTVIK, J. 1985. A Communicative Grammar of English. London: Longman.
- LYONS, C.. 1968. Introduction to Theoretical Linguistics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- LYONS, C. 1972. New Horizons in Linguistics. Harmondsworth: Penguin.
- MATTHEWS, P.H. 1981. Syntax. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- MATTHEWS, P.H. 1991. Morphology. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- MAURELATOS, A. 1978. "Events, processes and States". Linguistics and Philosophy 2. p.415-434.
- McCAWLEY, J.D. 1971 Tense and Time Reference in English", en C. Fillmore & D.T. Langendoen (eds.) Studies in Linguistic Semantics. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston.
- McCAWLEY, J.D. 1982. The Syntactic Phenomena of English. Chicago: Chicago University Press.
- PALMER, F.R. 1974. The English Verb. London: Longman.
- PALMER, F.R. 1986. Mood and Modality. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- QUIRK, R. et al. 1980. A Grammar of Contemporary English. London: Longman.



- QUIRK, R. et al. 1985. A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language. London: Longman.
- SELLKIRK, E. 1982. Phonology and Syntax: The Relation between Sound and Structure.. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.
- WIERZBICKA, A. 1988. The Semantics of Grammar. Amsterdam: Benjamins.

