

## **AN28000BA/AN2103OMA - The English Sentence**

offered for 2nd-year students in the BA program in English Studies and students in the  
Teacher Training Program  
Fall 2020

September 10, 2020

### **Course description**

This lecture course is aimed at improving students' knowledge of English grammar. Our main goal will be to acquire a deep understanding of how clauses are structured in English and how they form more complex sentences. The topics that we cover include: internal versus external arguments, the complement-adjunct distinction, the functional structure of the extended verbal, nominal, adjectival and adpositional projection, negation, non-finite clauses, subordination, coordination, passive clauses, extraposition, existential clauses, the *it*-cleft construction, pseudo-clefts, and dislocation.

While much of the discussion will be based on Rodney Huddleston's and Geoffrey K. Pullum's book titled *A Student's Introduction to English Grammar*, which takes a descriptive approach to grammar, we will also often consider naturally occurring data in corpora such as the British National Corpus and the Corpus of Contemporary American English when examining various grammatical phenomena.

### **Recommended reading**

Huddleston, Rodney and Geoffrey K. Pullum. 2005. *A Student's Introduction to English Grammar*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

### **Practice**

Each lecture will be supplemented with a PowerPoint presentation. Students will have access to each presentation in UD's e-learning platform.

### **Grading policy**

This course will culminate in a written exam at the end of the semester.

The grading scale in this course will be as follows:

44 – 50 → 5  
38 – 43 → 4  
33 – 37 → 3  
26 – 32 → 2  
0 – 25 → 1

### **The structure of the final exam**

You should expect 50 multiple choice questions in the final exam. The questions will test your knowledge of important generalizations about the grammar of English.

## Some tips for completing the final exam for this class

- Make sure that you attend each lecture and take notes while listening to my presentation. The PowerPoint slides will be made available for you to download 24 hours before they are due to be discussed in class.
- You may also want to study relevant chapters from Huddleston and Pullum (2005) before or after each lecture.
- Contact me via e-mail or in person in my office during office hours if you have any questions about the course material.
- Make sure you complete the mock test in week 14.
- Make sure that you have a deep understanding of the grammatical phenomena discussed in the slideshows. You can achieve this by attending each lecture and devoting multiple days to reviewing the course material before the final exam. Rote learning is not recommended.

## Weekly Syllabus

	Class content
<b>Week 1</b>	Introduction to the course
<b>Week 2</b>	Clause structure, complements, and adjuncts
<b>Week 3</b>	A quick review of verb phrases
<b>Week 4</b>	A quick review of noun phrases
<b>Week 5</b>	Adjectives and adverbs
<b>Week 6</b>	Adverbial clauses
<b>Week 7</b>	Prepositional phrases
<b>Week 8</b>	Negation
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Consultation Week – No class</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	Subordination, relative clauses
<b>Week 11</b>	Non-finite clauses and clauses without verbs

<b>Week 12</b>	Coordination
<b>Week 13</b>	Information packaging in the clause
<b>Week 14</b>	<b>Mock test</b>

## **Place and Time**

Aud Max, Thursday 12:00 – 1:40

## **Contact**

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Office hours: Wednesday 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Thursday 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Under the current regulations, the course is planned to be a face-to-face, classroom-based course. However, if due to the pandemic we have to switch to remote teaching, please be prepared to use the University of Debrecen E-Learning system at [elearning.unideb.hu](http://elearning.unideb.hu).

In case of such a switch, the grading policy may be subject to change. You will be notified of these changes by the instructor if needed.

It is our shared responsibility to observe effective hygiene rules and follow the relevant government, university and faculty regulations regarding the pandemic. If you become ill or experience any symptoms, please stay home to protect others from infection.