

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 2021

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 tests in weeks 7 & 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
Week 1	Introduction to the course
Week 2	Clause structure, complements, and adjuncts
Week 3	A quick review of verb phrases
Week 4	A quick review of noun phrases
Week 5	Adjectives and adverbs
Week 6	Prepositional phrases, X-bar theory
Week 7	Mock test #1
Week 8	Negation Clause type: asking, exclaiming, and directing
Week 9	Consultation Week – No class
Week 10	Subordination, relative clauses
Week 11	Non-finite clauses and clauses without verbs

Week 12	Coordination
Week 13	Information packaging in the clause
Week 14	Mock test #2

Place and Time

Room II, Thursday 12:00 – 1:40

Contact

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