

## AN28000BA/AN21030MA - The English Sentence

offered for 2nd-year students in the B.A. program in English Studies and students in the  
Teacher Training Program  
Spring 2024

### 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 e-Learning.

### Grading policy

This course will culminate in a computer-based test 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  
25 – 32 → 2  
0 – 24 → 1

### The structure of the final exam

You should expect 50 multiple choice questions in the final exam and you will have maximum 25 minutes to complete the test. The questions will test your knowledge of important generalizations about the grammar of English.

### Some tips for completing the final exam in 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 the 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
<b>Week 1</b> Feb. 15	Introduction to the course
<b>Week 2</b> Feb. 22	Clause structure, complements, and adjuncts
<b>Week 3</b> Feb. 29	A quick review of verb phrases and noun phrases
<b>Week 4</b> Mar. 7	Adjectives and adverbs
<b>Week 5</b> Mar. 14	Prepositional phrases, X-bar theory
<b>Week 6</b> Mar. 21	Negation
<b>Week 7</b> Mar. 28	<b>Mock test #1</b>
<b>Week 9</b> Apr. 11	Clause type: asking, exclaiming, and directing
<b>Week 10</b> Apr. 18	Subordination, relative clauses

<b>Week 11</b> Apr. 25	Non-finite clauses and clauses without verbs
<b>Week 12</b> May 2	Coordination
<b>Week 13</b> May 9	Information packaging in the clause
<b>Week 14</b> May 16	<b>Mock test #2</b>

## **Place and Time**

AudMax, Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

## **Contact**

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Friday 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.