

Fall 2017

MWF 1:55 – 2:45 pm, Anderson 21

Instructor: Aleksandra Tomic, MA

Office: Turlington 4016

Office hours: W 12:50 – 1:40pm, or by appointment

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Course Description:

This course is designed to help you acquire the terminology pertaining to the grammar of Modern English and develop an awareness of the form/structure, meaning, and use of various grammatical features of the English language. Simultaneously, we will be working on developing a pedagogical perspective on different ways these grammatical features can be taught to learners of English. This will be accomplished by examining modern pedagogical approaches to teaching English as a second/foreign language and developing teaching materials.

Course Objectives: By the end of this course you will have acquired the ability to competently describe and explain the phenomena of basic English grammar, such as the characteristics of different word classes and sentence structure types. We will focus on grammar points which learners of English as a second/foreign language often find challenging, such as verb tense and aspect, modal verbs, phrasal verbs, etc. You will also have obtained a broad theoretical knowledge of different language teaching methods, with a focus on Task-Based Teaching (TBT). Apart from the theoretical knowledge, you will have gained experience in creating teaching materials, including task sequences/units, authentic grammar resources, and lesson plans.

Course Credit Requirements and Grading

Homework Assignments	35%
Grammar Class Practice	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%

Attendance and Participation: Attendance is mandatory. You are allowed three unexcused absences. Each additional unexcused absence will lower your grade by one letter (e.g. from an A to A-).

Homework Assignments: You will submit 5 written homework assignments (each counting as 7% towards your final grade) over the course of the semester. Three assignments, 1, 2, and 5, will require you to complete a grammar exercise demonstrating your knowledge of previously covered grammar structures. The other assignments, 3 and 4, will require you to create teaching materials: a task sequence adopting the TBT framework designed to cover a particular grammar topic, and an adaptation of an authentic text as a grammar resource. Specific details and instructions will be posted on Canvas at least a week prior to the deadline. The homework

assignments are due on the dates listed on the schedule below as hard copies in class before class starts. Typed documents are strongly encouraged. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Grammar Class Practice: As a member of a group, you will develop a 30-minute instructional unit on a specific grammar point. You will teach this instructional unit to your peers in class. The instructional unit can be based on TBT principles, yet other methodologies are welcome as long as they are specified. Your group members will assess your performance in writing using a feedback sheet provided by the instructor. Your peers' assessments will count as 10% towards your final grade; the instructor's independent assessment of your performance will count as 10% towards your final grade.

Midterm and Final Exam: The midterm exam is scheduled for October 9th during the regular class time in Anderson 21. The final exam is scheduled for December 14th from 10am - 12pm in Anderson 21. There are no make-up exams. If you have an excused absence the day of the exam please contact the instructor. Please contact the instructor by September 19th if you have a scheduling conflict with the final exam date.

Grading scale:

100–93=A; 92.9–90=A–;
89.9–87=B+; 86.9–83=B; 82.9–80=B–;
79.9–77=C+; 76.9–73=C(S); 72.9–70=C–(U);
69.9–67=D+; 66.9–63=D; 62.9–60=D–;
59.9–0=E

For information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points, please go to <<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>>.

Extra Credit

There are no extra credit opportunities in this course.

Classroom Etiquette

Please turn cell phones to silent/airplane mode before entering class. Habitual tardiness is unacceptable in this course. Being more than 7 minutes late to the start of the course will count as an absence after the third tardy.

Required Materials

There is one required text book for this class: Firsten, R., & Killian, P. (2002). *The ELT grammar book: A teacher-friendly reference guide*. Alta Book Center Publishers. All other course materials will be made available online or in class.

A recommended reading with which we will heavily supplement the coursework is Celce–Murcia, M. and D. Larsen–Freeman. (1999). *The grammar book*. MA: Heinle & Heinle.

Accommodations

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. For more information, please go to <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>.

Academic Integrity

The UF Honor Code, which all students are required to abide by, reads:

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." For more information on the UF Honor Code, please go to: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcode.php>.

Course Schedule*

Date	Day	Content
8/21	1 M	Introduction to Class
8/23	W	Parts of Speech I - Nouns, Adjectives, Pronouns
8/25	F	Parts of Speech I - Nouns, Adjectives, Pronouns Continued
8/28	2 M	Overview of Past Teaching Methodologies
8/30	W	Parts of Speech I - Determiners (Articles)
9/1	F	Parts of Speech I - Determiners (Quantifiers)
9/4	3 M	No Class (Holiday)
9/6	W	Communicative Language Teaching
9/8	F	Parts of Speech II - Verbs, Adverbs Homework 1 Due
9/11	4 M	Parts of Speech II - Prepositions
9/13	W	Introduction to Task-based Teaching: Task Sequences
9/15	F	Modal Auxiliaries I
9/18	5 M	Modal Auxiliaries II
9/20	W	Task-based Teaching: Developing Units
9/22	F	Sentence Structure/Phrase Structure Rules I
9/25	6 M	Sentence Structure/Phrase Structure Rules II
9/27	W	Task-based Teaching: Focus on Form
9/29	F	Tense and Aspect I
10/2	7 M	Tense and Aspect II Homework 2 Due
10/4	W	Task-based Teaching: Using Written Texts
10/6	F	No Class (Homecoming)
10/9	8 M	Review for Midterm Exam
10/11	W	Midterm Exam
10/13	F	Phrasal Verbs
10/16	9 M	Lesson Planning
10/18	W	Passive and Causative Constructions I
10/20	F	Passive and Causative Constructions II Homework 3 Due
10/23	10 M	Grammar Class Practice: Modal Auxiliaries
10/25	W	Indirect Speech I
10/27	F	Indirect Speech II
10/30	11 M	Grammar Class Practice: Phrasal Verbs
11/1	W	Subjunctive Mood I
11/3	F	Subjunctive Mood II
11/6	12 M	Using Current Psycholinguistics and SLA Research in Teaching
11/8	W	Grammar Class Practice: Tense and Aspect
11/10	F	No Class (Holiday)
11/13	13 M	Individual Differences and Dynamicity in Learners

Homework 4 Due		
11/15	W	Grammar Class Practice: Passive Voice
11/17	F	Analyzing Learner Data
11/20	14 M	Grammar Class Practice: Indirect Speech
11/22	W	No Class (Holiday)
11/24	F	No Class (Holiday)
11/27	15 M	Relative Clauses I
11/29	W	Relative Clauses II
12/1	F	Grammar Class Practice: Articles
Homework 5 Due		
12/4	16 M	What Makes a Great Language Instructor
12/6	W	Review for Final Exam
12/8	F	No Class (Reading Day)
12/14		Final Exam 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

* This schedule is tentative and subject to changes. All changes will be posted on Canvas in a timely manner.