

Subject:	LLENGUA ANGLESA: GRAMÀTICA DESCRIPTIVA I	
Code:	28469	
Credits:	7,5	
Semester:	1	
Group:	1	2
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT

This course aims at studying English morphology (derivation and inflection), and at carrying out a detailed study of the structure of basic clauses in English. More precisely, the main objectives are the following: (i) to provide a theoretical introduction to morphology; (ii) to study inflection; (iii) to study the different word formation processes in English; (iv) to analyze the main categories and their distributional and morphological properties (inflectional and derivational); (v) to study their combination and identify the constituents; (vi) to describe the internal structure of the different phrases, the Noun Phrase, the Verb Phrase, the Adjective Phrase, the Adverb Phrase and the Prepositional Phrase and their main properties; and (vii) to identify lexical and syntactic ambiguity.

OBJECTIVES

Students should be able to (i) carry out morphological analyses and distinguish between inflection and derivation; (ii) identify and explain the word formation processes in English; (iii) identify the basic categories and phrases of English simple clauses, (iv) distinguish the notions of form and function of elements at different levels and (v) identify and analyse ambiguous sentences.

ASSESSMENT

The course will be evaluated as follows:

- Midterm exam (35%).
- Final exam (35%).

In both exams, the students will be asked to provide answers to different kinds of questions which involve defining grammatical notions, explain given structures and solve practical exercises.

- Homework and in-class assignments (15%).

There will be weekly assignments, some of which will be handed in and others corrected in class. Besides there will be work done in class, especially in the practical sessions, which will be assessed.

- Work done in the *tutoria integrada* (15%).

Note: the level of English will be taken into account when correcting exams and in the overall assessment.

TUTORIALS

The *tutoria integrada* will be done virtually, using the *Campus Virtual*. Tutorials will be devoted to practical exercises and to discussions of readings.

SYLLABUS

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The notion of grammar
- 1.2. Linguistics and the components of language
- 1.3. The notion of grammaticality
- 1.4. Form vs. function
- 1.5. Grammatical category

2. Morphology

- 2.1. Word
- 2.2. Morpheme
- 2.3. Morphs and allomorphs
- 2.4. Classification of morphs
- 2.5. Types of words
- 2.6. Inflection vs. derivation

3. Word formation processes

- 3.1. Major processes
 - 3.1.1 Derivation
 - 3.1.2 Compounding
 - 3.1.3 Conversion
- 3.2. Minor processes
 - 3.2.1 Reduplication
 - 3.2.2 Blending
 - 3.2.3 Backformation
 - 3.2.4 Acronymy
 - 3.2.5 Clipping

4. Word classes

- 4.1. The notion of category
 - 4.1.1 The traditional notion of the parts of speech
 - 4.1.2 The modern notion of word class or category
- 4.2. Morphological, semantic and distributional properties of major word classes
 - 4.2.1. The noun
 - 4.2.2 The verb
 - 4.2.3 The adjective
 - 4.2.4 The adverb
- 4.3 Morphological, semantic and distributional properties of minor word classes
 - 4.3.1 Pronouns
 - 4.3.2 Determiners
 - 4.3.3 Auxiliaries

4.3.4 Other categories

5. Constituents and phrases

5.1 Constituents

5.1.1 What is a constituent?

5.1.2 Constituency tests

5.1.3 Ambiguity

5.2 Phrases

5.2.1 What is a phrase?

5.2.3 The noun phrase

5.2.4 The verb phrase

5.2.5 The adjective phrase

5.2.6 The adverb phrase

5.2.7 The prepositional phrase

BIBLIOGRAPHY / MATERIALS

Basic bibliography:

Capdevila, M., H. Curell & M. Llinàs. 2006. *An Introduction to English Descriptive Grammar. Volume I*. Bellaterra: Servei de Publicacions (required textbook).

Greenbaum, S. & R. Quirk. 1990. *A Student's Grammar of the English Language*. London: Longman.

Huddleston, R. 1985. *Introduction to the Grammar of English*. Cambridge: CUP.

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Wardhaugh, R. 2003. *Understanding English Grammar. A Linguistic Approach*. 2nd edition. Oxford: Blackwell.

More advanced references:

Akmajian, A., R. Demers & R. Harnish. 2001. *An Introduction to Language and Communication*. 5th edition. Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.

Aarts, B. 2001. *English Syntax and Argumentation*. 2nd edition. London: Macmillan Press.

Brinton, L. J. 2000. *The Structure of Modern English. A Linguistic Introduction*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

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Givón, Talmy. 1993. *English Grammar. A Function-Based Introduction*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Miller, J. 2002. *An Introduction to English Syntax*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Muñoz, C. 1996. *Clause Analysis: A Practical Approach*. Barcelona: EUB.

Verspoor, M. & K. Sauter. 2000. *English Sentence Analysis. An Introductory Course*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.