

English Descriptive Grammar

2016/2017

Code: 103410 ECTS Credits: 6

| Degree | Туре | Year | Semester |
|------------------------------|------|------|----------|
| 2500245 English Studies | FB | 1 | 1 |
| 2501902 English and Catalan | FB | 1 | 1 |
| 2501907 English and Classics | FB | 1 | 1 |
| 2501910 English and Spanish | FB | 1 | 1 |
| 2501913 English and French | FB | 1 | 1 |

Contact

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Teachers

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Merce Coll Alfonso

Elisabet Pladevall Ballester

Use of languages

Principal working language: english (eng)
Some groups entirely in English: Yes
Some groups entirely in Catalan: No
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Prerequisites

A level of English between B2 (upper-intermediate) of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment is required.

Objectives and Contextualisation

This subject offers an introduction to the main structures of English grammar and provides the student with essential concepts and terminology to be able to describe it scientifically. After the first unit where basic notions are introduced, the course considers how to classify words into categories and how to identify groups of words that form constituents. Then simple, compound and complex sentences are described. A brief unit is devoted to sentence types (such as interrogatives).

At the end of the course, the students will be able to:

- Identify the category of words
- · Identify constituents in sentences using consituency tests
- Identify phrases of different types
- Distinguish between simple, complex and compound sentences
- Identify the type of subordination in complex sentences

Skills

English Studies

- Describe synchronously the main grammar units, constructions and phenomena of the English language.
- Executing in oral and written form a flexible and effective use of the English language with academic, professional and social purposes.
- Utilising new technologies in order to capture and organise information in English and other languages, and applying it to the personal continued training and to the problem-solving in the professional or research activity.
- Working in an autonomous and responsible way in a professional or research environment in English or other languages, in order to accomplish the previously set objectives.

English and Catalan

 Describe synchronously the main grammar units, constructions and phenomena of the English language.

English and Classics

- Describe synchronously the main grammar units, constructions and phenomena of the English language.
- Executing in oral and written form a flexible and effective use of the English language with academic, professional and social purposes.

English and Spanish

 Describe synchronously the main grammar units, constructions and phenomena of the English language.

English and French

- Describe synchronously the main grammar units, constructions and phenomena of the English language.
- Executing in oral and written form a flexible and effective use of the English language with academic, professional and social purposes.

Learning outcomes

- 1. Applying the acquired scientific and work planning methodologies to the research in English.
- 2. Applying the information in English that is available on the Internet, in databases, etc. to the work and/or research environments.
- 3. Demonstrating a general comprehension of the grammatical structures of the current English language.
- 4. Distinguishing between compound and complex sentences in English.
- 5. Distinguishing the notions of form and function of the elements at different levels of linguistic analysis.
- 6. Identifying the basic categories and syntagmas of a simple sentence in English.
- 7. Locating and organising relevant information in English that is available on the Internet, in databases,
- 8. Recognising the different types of subordinate sentences found in complex sentences in English.
- Using the English language with the appropriate expression (correctness, fluency, pronunciation, communicative strategies) in formal (presentations, debates, formal interactions) and informal contexts (conversation) with a level C1.

Content

Unit 1: Basic notions in grammatical analysis

Unit 2: Word classes

Unit 3: Predicates and arguments

Unit 4: Constituents and phrases

Unit 5: Sentence types

Unit 6: The simple sentence

Unit 7: Coordination

Unit 8: Subordination

Methodology

The methodology of this subject is based on lectures and class exercises as well as individual tutorials. The details are specified below.

Activities

| Title | Hours | ECTS | Learning outcomes |
|------------------------------------|-------|------|-------------------|
| Type: Directed | | | |
| Exercise discussion | 20 | 0.8 | 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 |
| Lectures | 30 | 1.2 | 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 |
| Type: Supervised | | | |
| Clearing up doubts | 15 | 0.6 | 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 |
| Personal feedback on the exercises | 10 | 0.4 | 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 |
| Type: Autonomous | | | |
| Doing the exercises | 25 | 1 | 1, 2, 7 |
| Studying | 25 | 1 | 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 |

Evaluation

Assessment

- All the subjects in this degree follow continuous assessment.
- The two assignments, the exam and 3 of the 4 guizzes are compulsory.
- Having handed in an assignment or completed two quizzes excludes the possibility of having a No avaluable in your student record.
- An exercise not handed in or an exam the student has not sat will count as an 'NP', that is to say a zero.
- An item not handed in or an undone exam will be counted as a zero to calculate the average.

Re-assesssment

- Only students who have a 4 (o higher) in the final exam will be allowed to sit the reassessment exam.
- Reassessment will consist of a written exam and will cover all of the course contents.
- The maximum reassessment mark is a 5.

VERY IMPORTANT: Partial or total plagiarising will immediately result in a FAIL (0) for the plagiarised exercise (first-year subjects) or the WHOLE SUBJECT (second-, third- and fourth-year subjects). PLAGIARISING consists of copying text from unacknowledged sources -whether this is part of a sentence or a whole text- with the intention of passing it off as the student's own production. It includes cutting and pasting from internet sources, presented unmodified in the student's own text. Plagiarising is a SERIOUS OFFENCE. Students must

respect authors' intellectual property, always identifying the sources they may use; they must also be responsible for the originality and authenticity of their own texts.

Evaluation activities

| Title | Weighting | Hours | ECTS | Learning outcomes |
|--------------|-----------|-------|------|-------------------|
| Assignment 1 | 15% | 5 | 0.2 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 |
| Assignment 2 | 15% | 5 | 0.2 | 1, 2, 4, 7, 8 |
| Final exam | 60% | 7 | 0.28 | 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 |
| Quizzes | 10% | 8 | 0.32 | 3, 5, 6, 9 |

Bibliography

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

Capdevila, M., H. Curell & M. Llinàs (2007) An Introduction to English Descriptive Grammar. Volume I. Bellaterra: Servei de Publicacions.

Huddleston, R. & G. Pullum (2007) A Student's Introduction to English Grammar, Cambridge: C.U.P.

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

Tallerman, M. (2011) Understanding Syntax. 3d edition, London: Hodder Education.