

**COURSE OUTLINE (I- 2017)**  
 Córdoba – Solís – Valdelomar

Name: English Grammar I LM-1234	Requisites: LM-1002 Co-requisites: LM-1230 & LM-1235
Credits: 2	Type: B.A. in English & B.A. and <i>Profesorado</i> in English Teaching
Schedule: 3 hours / week in-class work 6 hours / week out-of-class work	Duration: 16 weeks
Level: Second year	Cycle: I semester

**I. DESCRIPTION**

This is the first grammar course in the Program and is designed for students at an intermediate level of English proficiency. In this course, the students will be introduced to the formal study of basic English grammar.

**II. GENERAL OBJECTIVE**

The students will develop their ability to use basic English grammar structures accurately, meaningfully, and appropriately.

**III. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

1. Recognize basic types of clauses, parts of speech and independent grammatical expressions.
2. Distinguish among mass, count, and collective nouns to select the appropriate modifiers and S-V agreement rules.
3. Use subject-verb agreement rules correctly.
4. Show understanding of how and why pronouns, determiners and adverbials are used.
5. Use pre- and post-modifiers to expand noun phrases appropriately.
6. Recognize the different English sentence patterns.
7. Write correct, meaningful sentences with the different English sentence patterns.
8. Show awareness of the communicative value of the grammar rules studied to improve oral and written production.

**IV. CONTENT**

1. Basics of grammar
2. Mass, count and collective nouns
3. Subject-verb agreement rules (simple present, simple past of "be", present perfect)
4. Pronouns
5. Determiners
6. The expansion of the noun phrase
7. Adverbials
8. Sentence patterns
  - a. N V
  - b. N V N
  - c. N LV N
  - d. N LV Adj

- e. N V N N
- f. N V Nx Nx
- g. N V N Adj

**V. METHODOLOGY**

Lecturing from the instructor as well as pair, group and independent student work will take place during class periods through different communicative techniques and drills. Emphasis will be placed on the importance of making a connection between the grammar of the language and written and oral communication; therefore, students will be expected to keep track of their own progress by paying attention to strengths and weaknesses in their written and oral communication skills.

Students are expected to study the chapters and do the assigned exercises before coming to class, to look for information when required and to have an active participation during class sessions.

**VI. EVALUATION**

**Components and percentages**

Four Quizzes .....	40%
First Exam .....	30%
Second Exam .....	30%
Total .....	100%

**VII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

1. As a courtesy to all, cell phones and other electronic devices must be off and away during class. This includes receiving/sending text messages and accessing the Internet.
2. Office hours will be scheduled by instructors. If required, appointments will be given out of office hours.
3. There will not be any make-up quizzes or exams. See timetable for dates. If you are sick on the day of an exam, please bring the corresponding doctor's certificate from the Health Center (UCR) or Caja Costarricense del Seguro Social.
4. You must always bring your textbook to class. It is also advisable to bring a good monolingual English dictionary.
5. Assigned exercises must be completed before coming to class as you are expected to contribute to class discussion. Your active participation in class discussions and group activities will make your experience richer and more enjoyable.
6. Instructors might make use of UCR *Aula Virtual* or other platforms to send and /or collect students' homework and/or specific assignments.

**VIII. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Textbook

Flores Mora, Berta; Alfaro Murillo, Vilma; and Flores Mora, Marco A. (2002). *Basic English Syntax*. San José: Editorial de la Universidad de Costa Rica.

Additional references

Badalamenti, V. & Henner-Stanchina, C. (1997). *Grammar Dimensions 1: Form Meaning, and Use* (2nd Ed.). Boston: Heinle & Heinle.

Bland, S. K. (1996). *Intermediate Grammar: From Form to Meaning and Use*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Carter, R., Hughes, R. & McCarthy, M. (2000). *Exploring Grammar in Context*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Lewis, M. (2002). *The English Verb: An Exploration of Structure and Meaning*. Boston: Thomson Heinle.

Nettle, M. & Hopkins, D. (2003). *Developing Grammar in Context*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Riggenbach, H. & Samuda, V. (1997). *Grammar Dimensions 2: Form Meaning, and Use* (2nd Ed.). Boston: Heinle & Heinle.

Thewlis, S. (1997). *Grammar Dimensions 3: Form Meaning, and Use*. (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.). Boston: Heinle & Heinle.

**Online sources**

OWL Writing Lab: Grammar, Punctuation, and Spelling

[<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/grammar/index.html>]

*English-Zone.com* [<http://www.english-zone.com/study/grammar-in-context1.html>]

**IX. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE**

WEEK	ACTIVITIES	HOMEWORK
Week 1: March 13 - 17	Introduction to the course Introduction to basics of grammar Parts of speech	What is grammar? (handout)  Chapter 1
Week 2: March 20 - 24	Basics of grammar Chapter 1: Nouns & Pronouns	Chapter 1 Study for quiz # 1
Week 3: March 27 - 31	Types of sentences: simple, compound, complex, compound-complex Finish Chapter 1	Chapter 2
Week 4: April 3 - 7	<b>Quiz # 1 (Basics of grammar &amp; Chapter 1)</b> Chapter 2: Determiners	Chapter 2
<b>April 10 - 14</b>	<b>Holy Week</b>	
Week 5: April 17 - 21	Feedback: Quiz # 1 Finish Chapter 2	Chapter 3
Week 6: April 24 – 28 <b>Homecoming Week</b>	Chapter 3: The Expansion of the Noun Phrase	Chapter 3
Week 7: <b>May 1: Holiday</b> - May 3	Chapter 3: The Expansion of the Noun Phrase	Study for quiz # 2
Week 8: May 8 - 12	Finish Chapter 3 <b>Quiz # 2 (Chapter 2 and Chapter 3)</b>	
Week 9: May 15 - 19	Feedback Quiz # 2 Review for Exam 1	Study for exam # 1
Week 10: May 22 - 26	<b>Exam # 1 (Basics of grammar, Chapters 1, 2, and 3 )</b>	Chapter 4
Week 11: May 29 - June 2	Feedback: Exam # 1 Chapter 4: Adverbials	Chapter 4 Study for quiz #3
Week 12: June 5 – 9	Finish Chapter 4: Adverbials <b>Quiz # 3 (Chapter 4)</b>	Chapter 5
Week 13: June 12 – 16	Feedback: Quiz # 3 Chapter 5: Sentence Patterns	Chapter 5 Study for quiz #4
Week 14: June 19 – 23	Finish Chapter 5 <b>Quiz # 4 (Chapter 5)</b>	
Week 15: June 26 - 30	Feedback Quiz #4 Final review	Study for Exam # 2: Pre-noun and post -noun modifiers; adverbials, and sentence patterns
Week 16: July 3 - 7	<b>Exam #2 (Chapters 3, 4 and 5)</b>	
<b>Final results: Friday, July 7, 2017 on schedule given by your instructor</b>		
<b>The final grades will be posted on the bulletin board next to <i>Secretaría LM</i></b>		
<b>AMPLIACIÓN/SUFICIENCIA Exams: Friday, July 14, 2016 from 9:00 -11:00 a.m.</b>		
<b>Room to be announced</b>		