

Course outline

Course name: English Grammar V	Requisites: LM-0355 or LM-1363
Course code: LM-0356	Correquisites: None
Credits: 2	Cycle: VII
In-class work: 3 hours Out-of-class work: 3 hours	Type: B.A. in English
Level: fourth year	Modality: Face to face 100%

I. Description

LM-0356 English Grammar V is for advanced level students pursuing the B.A. in English. The main purpose of this course is to help students develop oral and written skills for academic communication while using the appropriate grammatical structures. During class time, instructors will combine grammatical explanations and the analysis of authentic and student-produced texts.

This course will be taught 100% face-to-face. Important information, documents, or other materials will be posted on the site of the course in Mediación Virtual.

II. Objectives

General Objective

At the end of the course, the students will be able to use the learned grammar structures, which are necessary in academic writing and speaking in English.

Specific Objectives

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

- a) use appropriate collocations in an academic context, both orally and in writing,
- b) express their points of view on a topic by using hedging and collocations to adopt an epistemic stance,
- c) write cohesive academic texts using pronouns, demonstratives, repetition of key terms, topic-related vocabulary, and strategies to improve writing style,
- d) vary sentence stress / focus elements by using expletives,

- a) correct sentences that contain dangling modifiers to avoid ambiguity.

III. Contents

1. Collocations
 - a. Verb + preposition (e.g., *speak about*)
 - b. Adjective + preposition (e.g., *interested in*)
 - a. Noun + preposition (e.g., *research on*)
 - a. Complex prepositions (e.g., *out of, in spite of*)
2. Hedging strategies and epistemic stance in academic written and spoken texts
3. Cohesion
 - a. Pronoun reference
 - b. Demonstrative pronouns preceded by key words (e.g., *this vs. which*)
 - a. Repetition vs. redundancy of nouns and verbs
4. Sentence rhythm
 - a. The objective of sentence rhythm
 - b. End focus
 - c. Sentence structure (subject and predicate)
 - d. Placement of new and known information in a sentence
 - e. Expletives (*if, whether, whether or not, that, or, as*)
5. Dangling modifiers
 - a. Elliptical clauses
 - b. Infinitives
 - b. Gerunds
 - c. Participles

IV. Methodology

The instructor will deliver lectures, and the students will discuss and analyze texts. The students will work individually, in pairs, and in groups. They will do exercises and discuss previously assigned readings and authentic texts from different sources in order to develop academic communication skills. In groups, the students will also analyze discourse and rhetorical elements in texts written by them. All the students should have the course materials. Before each class, students must do the exercises assigned by the instructor. It is advisable that students have a monolingual English dictionary. The course will be taught 100% face to face, Important information, documents, or other materials will be posted on the site of the course in Mediación Virtual.

V. Evaluation

A. Quizzes (3)	30%
B. Project	10%
C. Exam 1	30%
D. Exam 2	30%

Description of the Project: The students will work in small groups (the number of members to be defined by the course instructor) to generate a product based on the topics covered in the course. In the final project, the students will create a text related to the contents of the course and about a current issue. A grading scale and detailed instructions will be provided by the instructor during the semester.

Evaluation notes

- Quizzes and exams will be completed in the classroom.
- Absences on scheduled evaluation days must be justified by presenting the required documents to the instructor who will proceed according to the regulations set forth in article 24 of *Reglamento Académico Estudiantil*.
- Instructors have 10 working days to check and hand back all evaluations according to the *Reglamento Académico Estudiantil*.
- Every student is subjected to the rules included in the *Reglamento de Régimen Académico Estudiantil* de la Universidad de Costa Rica.

VI. References

- Caplan, N. (2019). *Grammar choices for graduate and professional writers* (2nd ed.). University of Michigan Press.
- Hinkel, Eli. (2020). *Teaching academic L2 writing* (2nd ed.). Routledge.
- Kolln, M., & Gray, L. (2013). *Rhetorical grammar: Grammatical choices, rhetorical effects* (7th ed.). Pearson.
- Wallwork, A. (2013). *English for academic research: Writing exercises*. Springer.

Additional references

- Wallwork, A. (2016). *English for academic research: Grammar, usage and style*.

Springer.

VII. Tentative timetable

Week	Activities
1 March 11 to 15	Course introduction Corpus for writing Collocations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verb + preposition (e.g., <i>speak about</i>) • Adjective + preposition (e.g., <i>interested in</i>) • Noun + preposition (e.g., <i>research on</i>) • Complex prepositions (e.g., <i>out of, in spite of</i>) • Skeletal phrases
2 March 18 to 22	Collocations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verb + preposition (e.g., <i>speak about</i>) • Adjective + preposition (e.g., <i>interested in</i>) • Noun + preposition (e.g., <i>research on</i>) • Complex prepositions (e.g., <i>out of, in spite of</i>) • Skeletal phrases
March 25 to 29	Holy week
3 April 1 to 5	Hedging strategies and epistemic stance Quiz 1: corpus use, collocations, skeletal phrases
4 April 8 to 12	Hedging strategies and epistemic stance
5 April 15 to 19	Hedging strategies and epistemic stance Monday 15 holiday
6 April 22 to 26	Hedging strategies and epistemic stance Semana Universitaria
7 April 29 to May 3	Review for exam I Wednesday 1 holiday
8 May 6 to 10	Exam I

<p>9 May 13 to 17</p>	<p>Cohesion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pronoun reference • Demonstrative pronouns preceded by key words (e.g., <i>this</i> vs. <i>which</i>) • Repetition vs. redundancy of nouns and verbs <p>Project is assigned.</p>
<p>10 May 20 to 24</p>	<p>Cohesion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pronoun reference • Demonstrative pronouns preceded by key words (e.g., <i>this</i> vs. <i>which</i>) • Repetition vs. redundancy of nouns and verbs
<p>11 May 27 to 31</p>	<p>Sentence rhythm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objective of sentence rhythm • End focus • Sentence structure (subject and predicate) • Placement of new and known information in a sentence • Expletives (<i>if, whether, whether or not, that, or, as</i>) <p>Quiz 2: cohesion</p>
<p>12 June 3 to 7</p>	<p>Sentence rhythm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objective of sentence rhythm • End focus • Sentence structure (subject and predicate) • Placement of new and known information in a sentence • Expletives (<i>if, whether, whether or not, that, or, as</i>)
<p>13 June 10 to 14</p>	<p>Dangling modifiers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elliptical clauses • Infinitives • Gerunds • Participles <p>Quiz 3: Sentence rhythm</p>
<p>14 June 17 to 21</p>	<p>Dangling modifiers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elliptical clauses • Infinitives • Gerunds • Participles <p>Students hand in project.</p>
<p>15 June 24 to 28</p>	<p>Review for exam II</p>

16 July 1 to 5	Exam II
July 10	Final grades
Thursday July 18	Ampliación (from 10 a.m. until noon)