

Universidad de Costa Rica
Escuela de Lenguas Modernas
Bachillerato en Inglés
Sección de II a IV Año

PROGRAMA DE CURSO

Course: English Grammar VI	Requisite: LM 0356
Sigla: LM 0357	Corequisite : None
Credit hours: 2	Semester : VIII
Trabajo presencial: 3 horas Trabajo extraclase: 3 horas	Type : Propio
Level: Fourth year	Face to face course

I. Course description

This course is designed to help students develop a deeper understanding of advanced principles of English grammar. It will specifically allow them to examine how grammar works in academic settings and to apply this knowledge into their writing and speaking. The course is designed to build upon students' grammatical command of English achieved in previous courses, and more specifically on those included in LM-0356 (English Grammar V). Authentic texts and texts produced by students will be used to analyze grammatical phenomena that are distinctive of academic oral and written communication.

This course will use *Mediación Virtual* as a repository for assignments, answer keys, and projects.

II. Objectives

General objective

Upon completion of this course the student will have reliably demonstrated the ability to justify the choice of particular grammatical structures in academic writing or speaking through proper syntactical analysis.

Specific objectives

After completing this course the student will be able to

- A. apply the proper subject-verb agreement rules in sentences with specific subjects .
- B. utilize the most appropriate verbal tense, aspect or voice in the context of a research literature review.
- C. produce grammatical statements by using specific sentence patterns.
- D. utilize nouns in context according to meaning (common/proper and count/noncount).
- E. use determiners based on specific reference rules of nouns or their condition as count or

noncount and singular or plural nouns.

- F. use adjectivals within noun phrases and in their proper order.
- G. rewrite sentences including appropriate nominalization.
- H. compose sentences including relative clauses.
- I. rephrase sentences by reducing relative clauses to non-finite forms.
- J. use nominal clauses and embedded clauses in the production of written sentences.
- K. utilize adverbials purposefully.

III. Contents

- 1. Basic sentence patterns
 - a. Different kinds of verbs
 - b. Verb complements
- 2. Adverbials
 - a. Types of adverbials
 - b. Placement of adverbials
- 3. Adjectivals
 - a. Pre headword modifiers
 - b. Post headword modifiers
- 4. Nominals
 - a. Nominals in writing
 - b. Nominals for focus
- 5. Verbals
 - a. Basic tenses: Present simple, past simple, present perfect
 - b. Other tenses
 - c. Passive voice
 - d. Subject-verb agreement
- 6. Finite and non-finite clauses
 - a. Relative clauses
 - b. Nominal clauses
 - c. Reduced embedded clauses
- 7. Noun phrases
 - a. Determiners and quantifiers
 - b. Modifiers
 - c. Nominalization

IV. Methodology

Most of the class time will be dedicated to the analysis of grammatical structures used in academic settings. The major syntactical elements will be presented through lectures and text analysis. Students, on their part, will be given the chance to analyze texts individually, in pairs or in groups and report on their findings. During class time, students will be presented with authentic texts from academic sources to get them acquainted with different registers and rhetorical patterns. Also, students' own academic texts can be used for syntactical analysis and comparison. Students are expected to read the material out of class and come prepared with questions that will be used as input for learning activities. Mediación Virtual will function as a repository for extra material, assignments, and answer keys.

V. Evaluation

A. Quizzes (at least 3-in class)	25%
B. Portfolio (online).....	25%
C. Test I (in class).....	25%
D. Test II (in class).....	25%

The learning portfolio consists of a collection of students' learning experiences during the development of the course. After each course section, determined by the topics covered, students are expected to look through articles in their academic discipline and find examples of the grammatical structures or syntactical topics studied in class. These samples will be analyzed and collected in a portfolio, which will be evaluated at different points during the semester. The data collection and analysis will be done in groups to reinforce cooperation and collaborative work.

VI. Sources

Base textbooks:

Caplan, N. A. (2019). *Grammar choices for graduate and professional writers*. University of Michigan Press.

Kolln, M., & Gray, L. (2013). *Rhetorical Grammar: Grammatical Choices, Rhetorical Effects* (7th ed.). Boston: Pearson.

Kolln, M., & Funk, R. (2009). *Understanding English grammar* (8th ed.). New York: Longman.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Bing, J. (1989). *Grammar Guide: English Grammar in Context*. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall Regents.

Celce-Murcia, M., & Larsen-Freeman, D. (1999). *The Grammar Book* (2nd ed.). New York: Heinle & Heinle.

- Hinkel, E., & Fotos, S. (Eds.). (2002). *New perspectives on grammar teaching in second language classrooms*. Mahwah, NJ: L. Erlbaum Associates.
- Kumar, R. (2005). *Research methodology: A step-by-step guide for beginners*. London: SAGE.
- Maurer, J. (2000). *Focus on Grammar*. New York: Addison Wesley Longman.
- Swales, J., & Feak, C. (2012). *Academic writing for graduate students: Essential tasks and skills* (3rd ed.). Ann Arbor: Michigan University Press.
- Swales, J., & Feak, C. (2009). *Telling a research story: Writing a literature review*. Ann Arbor: Michigan University Press.
- Wallwork, A. (2013). *English for academic research, writing exercises*. New York: Springer.

VII. Tentative timetable

WEEK	ACTIVITY (On campus)
1. March 11-15	Introduction to the course Review of sentence patterns
2. March 18-22	More on sentence patterns Adverbials
3. March 25-29	EASTER
4. April 1-5	Quiz # 1 (During class time) Adverbials Adjectivals
5. April 8-12	Adjectivals
6. April 15-19	Nominals
7. April 22-26 Semana U	Nominals
8. Ap. 29-May 3	Portfolio first review (Online) Quiz # 2 (During class time) Review for exam I
9. May 6-10	First exam (During class time)
10. May 13-17	Verbals in the Literature Review
11. May 20 – 24	Portfolio 2nd review (online) Verbals in the Literature Review
12. May 27-31	Finite and non finite clauses in the Research Introduction
13. June 3-7	Quiz 3 (During class time) Finite and non finite clauses in the Research Introduction
14. June 10-14	Noun phrases in headings and abstract
15. June 17-21	Noun phrases in headings and abstract Portfolio 3rd review (Online)
16. June 24-28	Review
17. July 1-5	Second exam (During class time)
18. July 4	Grades
19. July 18	Ampliación (9-11 a.m.) (Room to be announced later)