

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

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: High virtuality

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 under a high virtuality modality (*alto virtual*). *Mediación Virtual* will be used as the platform to teach the course as well as the one to post relevant information, documents, or other materials.

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,
- e) 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*)
 - c. Noun + preposition (e.g., *research on*)
 - d. 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*)
 - c. 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
 - c. Gerunds
 - d. 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 in a high virtuality modality with synchronous as well as asynchronous sessions, and all graded evaluation activities will be face-to-face (see the timetable for specific dates). The course will be administered through *Mediación Virtual*, including the sessions, evaluation activities, presentations, documents, and others. If quizzes or exams are completed at the computer lab, they will be monitored and graded through *Mediación Virtual*.

V. Evaluation

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

*The percentage of every quiz is 10%.

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. The guidelines of the project will be shared on week 6 of the course.

Evaluation notes

- Quizzes and exams will be completed in the classroom or in a computer lab (given availability of the lab).
- 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

Important: Unless a computer lab is assigned, the room for on-site sessions is 252 LE.

Week	Activities
1 March 9 Virtual synchronous session	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>)
2 March 16 Virtual synchronous session	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
3 March 23 On site	Hedging strategies and epistemic stance Quiz 1: Corpus writing and collocations
	Holy Week
4 April 6 Asynchronous session	Hedging strategies and epistemic stance
5 April 13 Virtual synchronous session	Hedging strategies and epistemic stance Project is assigned
6 April 20 Virtual synchronous session	Hedging strategies and epistemic stance Semana Universitaria
7 April 27 Virtual synchronous session	Cohesion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pronoun reference • Demonstrative pronouns preceded by key words (e.g., <i> this vs. which</i>) • Repetition vs. redundancy of nouns and verbs Holiday May 1

<p>8 May 4 Asynchronous session</p>	<p>Practice for exam 1 May 8: Inauguration Day</p>
<p>9 May 11 On site</p>	<p>Exam 1</p>
<p>10 May 18 Virtual synchronous session</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>Sentence rhythm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objective of sentence rhythm • End focus
<p>11 May 25 On site</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 1 Asynchronous session</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 8 On site</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 15 Virtual synchronous session</p>	<p>Dangling modifiers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elliptical clauses • Infinitives • Gerunds • Participles <p>Students present their projects during the virtual session.</p>

15 June 22 Asynchronous session	Practice for exam 2
16 June 29 On site	Exam 2
Tuesday, July 7	Final grades: Virtual appointments with each student
Monday, July 20	<i>Ampliación</i> test (from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., on site) Room to be announced