

**Carleton University
Fall 2019
Department of English**

ENGL 1008A: English Grammar: Fundamentals

**T/Th 11:35 a.m.-12:55 p.m.
Location: Tory Building 210**

**Instructor: Matthew Scribner
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Office: TBD
Office Hours: TBD**

Many people learn grammar through trial and error. We all remember when we were young and we said something along the lines of “Dad and me went to the store,” only to be haughtily told that it should be “Dad and I went to the store.” The result of this is that we may learn what to say and what not to say, but we do not learn why. This course aims to teach the rules of English grammar with a focus on the role words play in sentences.

To do this, we will employ traditional sentence diagramming to link related parts of the sentence together. We will practice, practice, and practice some more with regular online quizzes and in-class activities.

Taking this course will help you become a better writer and will help you understand the underlying principles behind the English sentences that you are speaking every day. If you are studying other European languages, this course can help with that too: English shares the same structure as German, Latin, French, and more. It is just a matter of looking past the individual words and seeing the structure within.

Learning Outcomes:

- Learn the components of sentences
- Gain experience in applying correct grammar
- Learn the types and formats of traditional sentence diagrams
- Understand variations and controversies in English grammar
- Learn verb conjugation
- Understand the distinctions between commonly confused words

Texts

There is one required textbook for the course:

Vitto, Cindy L. *Grammar by Diagram*. Second Edition. Broadview, 2006.

The book is available from Haven Books, 43 Seneca St., Ottawa, ON, K1S 4X2. Regrettably, Haven Books is not wheelchair accessible. Please contact me if this presents a problem.

Also, please bring the textbook to class every day. (Sorry.)

Evaluation:

As stated in the Academic Regulations of the University, Section 5.1, students must complete all term papers and examinations to obtain credit for this course.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

In-Class Activities 10%

Online Quizzes 5%

Assignment 20%

Test One 20%

Test Two 20%

Final Exam 25%

There will be an extra assignment to make up ONE missed in-class activity at the end of the term. Details will be announced at that time. Otherwise, you need to be in class to do the activities. Missed tests cannot be made up except under extraordinary circumstances.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a form of intellectual theft. It is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include failure of the assignment, failure of the entire course, or suspension from a program. For more information please go to:

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

VII. Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Etiquette

Please give the person who is speaking in class—whether it is the instructor or one of your peers—your full attention. Do not wear headphones in class (regardless of whether you are listening to anything) without a prior arrangement.

You may use a laptop or tablet to take notes, but please, do not surf the web, check social media, or do other distracting things in class. Please do not use cellphones in class, even to take notes.

Discussion is encouraged, but (obviously) please disagree without being disagreeable.

Schedule

Sept. 5 Introduction, pp. 9–16

Sept. 10 Chapter 1: The Eight Parts of Speech (minus verbs)

Sept. 12 Chapter 1: Verbs, Appendix 2: Conjugation

Sept. 17 Chapter 2: Basic Sentence Patterns 1–3

Sept. 19 Chapter 2: Basic Sentence Patterns 4–5

Sept. 24 Chapter 3: Basic Sentence Patterns 6–10

Sept. 26 Chapter 3: Basic Sentence Patterns 9–10

Oct. 1 Chapter 3: Special Structures

Oct. 3 Special structures continued

Oct. 8 Practice for test

Oct. 10 TEST ONE

Oct. 15 Chapter 4: Usage Problems: Adjectives and Adverbs

Oct. 17 Appendix 6: Commonly confused words

Oct. 21–25 BREAK WEEK

Oct. 29 Chapter 5: Compound Structures

Oct. 31 Chapter 6: Complex Sentences

Nov. 5 Chapter 7: Complex/Compound-Complex Sentences

Nov. 7 Chapter 8: Usage Problems

Nov. 12 Practice for test

Nov. 14 TEST TWO

Nov. 19 Chapter 9: Verbs, Appendix 3

Nov. 21 Chapter 10: Verbals, Appendix 4

Nov. 26 Chapter 11: Usage Problems: Verbs and Verbals

Nov. 28 Chapter 12: Punctuation and capitalization

Dec. 3 Chapter 13: Sentence Transformations (ASSIGNMENT DUE AT START OF CLASS)

Dec. 5 Practice for exam