

**Carleton University
Fall 2021
Department of English**

ENGL 1008A: English Grammar: Fundamentals

Prerequisites: None

Preclusions: None

Monday and Wednesday **10:05-11:25 (Please confirm via Carleton Central)**
Location: **Not Applicable: ONLINE COURSE**

Format: This is a “blended” ONLINE COURSE. Please see below for details.

Professor Wallace
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Online office Hours are by appointment, but please note the following:
**I will host a live, optional “group session” via Zoom every Monday and Wednesday
from 9:30 am – 10:00 am.**

PLEASE NOTE: This is not an ESL course. Students are expected to be fluent in English. For ESL courses please see: <https://carleton.ca/slals/esl/>

Studying English grammar can benefit students in several ways. A firm grasp of grammatical terminology and fundamentals can give you a better understanding of the nature (and even the peculiarities) of the English language. A better understanding of these phenomena can, in turn, give you the tools to be a better and more confident communicator in both written and spoken English.

The study of grammar is commonly divided into “descriptive” and “prescriptive” approaches. “Descriptive” approaches to the topic describe how a language actually functions across the totality of contexts in which it is used. “Prescriptive” approaches study and describe standards of correctness. This course strives to balance these approaches in an attempt to provide students with a firm command of the fundamentals of English grammar and grammatical terminology. Some attention to the origins and history of grammatical inquiry and the English language will sharpen our understanding of the parts of speech, syntax (word order), morphology (word forms), semantics (word meanings), and punctuation. Throughout the course, our attention will be on the basic unit of the sentence.

Students who complete the course will gain a clear understanding of how English “works.” They will also be able to work with traditional grammatical terminology, diagnose and correct errors, and express themselves in writing with clarity and precision.

Format: This “blended” online course combines asynchronous and synchronous elements. Each unit will combine asynchronous and synchronous elements:

- Every Monday, a group of presentation slides with voiceover lecture will be posted on Brightspace. **The Monday class, therefore, is always asynchronous.**
- Every Wednesday, a live lecture / discussion will be delivered via Zoom from 10:05-11:25 am. This meeting will always be recorded and made available via Brightspace. **The Wednesday class, therefore, can be viewed live or watched asynchronously.**

Learning Outcomes

Students who complete this course will be able to:

- distinguish between descriptive and prescriptive approaches to grammar
- explain how the history of the English language shapes the language’s grammar
- use precise grammatical terminology for the parts of speech
- recognize and diagram a wide range of sentence patterns and grammatical structures
- identify, produce, and punctuate simple, complex, and compound sentences according to academic / professional standards of speech
- diagnose and correct common errors in their own writing and in the writing of others

Required Texts

This course will run parallel to material in the following **required** text:

Cindy L. Vitto, *Grammar By Diagram: Understanding English Grammar Through Traditional Sentence Diagramming*, 2nd ed. Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2006. [9781551117782]

Hard copies of this textbook are available at Haven Books, 43 Seneca Street, Ottawa, ON, K1S 4X2. See havenbooks@cuasaonline.ca

You can also purchase this text directly from Broadview Press (either in print or as a digital PDF) at the following link: <https://broadviewpress.com/product/grammar-by-diagram-second-edition/#tab-description>

Broadview Press publishes a very helpful companion to this textbook: *Grammar By Diagram Workbook*. The textbook and workbook can be purchased as a bundle for a discount. You do not, however, need to purchase the workbook.

Required Evaluations

- 5% Early feedback quiz (multiple choice via Brightspace)
- 30% Test 1 (multiple choice via Brightspace)
- 30% Test 2 (multiple choice via Brightspace)
- 35% Final Exam (multiple choice via Brightspace)

Please note that students must complete all course requirements in order to be eligible to pass the 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.

Plagiarism and Academic Offences

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” According to the Department examples of plagiarism include the following:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- 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;
- 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/>

Special Information Regarding Fall 2021 Pandemic Measures

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) and mandatory self-screening prior to coming to campus daily.

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the mandatory [symptom reporting tool](#). For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be recorded in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the [COVID-19 website](#).

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food or drinks are permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the [University's COVID-19 webpage](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#). Failure to comply with Carleton's COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.

Course Schedule

UNIT 1: September 8:

- Introduction and overview; course business; history of grammar; history of the English language
- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

UNIT 2: September 13 and 15

- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

UNIT 3: September 20 and 22

- Seeing the Skeleton: Recognizing and Diagramming Sentence Patterns (1)
- **Early feedback quiz (15 minutes) is to be completed on Brightspace on Wednesday 22 September**
- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

UNIT 4: September 27 and 29

- Seeing the Skeleton: Recognizing and Diagramming Sentence Patterns (2)
- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

UNIT 5: October 4 and 6

- Identifying and Correcting Common Errors (1)
- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER

UNIT 6: October 13 (please note that October 11 is statutory holiday and that there will be no upload of asynchronous materials that day)

- Compound Sentences

- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 13 OCTOBER
- UNIT 7: October 18 and 20
- Complex and Compound-Complex Sentences
 - SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER
 - Test 1 is to be completed on Brightspace before 11:59 pm on 22 October. Details about the format and timing of the test will be distributed during the first two weeks of class.

OCTOBER 25-29: FALL BREAK: NO CLASSES

UNIT 8: November 1 and 3

- Identifying and Correcting Common Errors (2)
- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER

UNIT 9: November 8 and 10

- Verbs (Finite Verbs)
- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 10 NOVEMBER

UNIT 10: November 15 and 17

- Verbals (Non-finite Verbs)
- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER
- Test 2 is to be completed on Brightspace before 11:59 pm on 20 November. Details about the format and timing of the test will be distributed during the first week after the Fall Break.

UNIT 11: November 22 and 24

- Identifying and Correcting Common Errors (3)
- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 24 NOVEMBER

UNIT 12: November 29 and December 1

- Punctuation
- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 1 DECEMBER

UNIT 13: December 6 and 8

- Conclusion and review
- SYNCHRONOUS CLASS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 8 DECEMBER

*A Final Exam of three hours will take place during the formally scheduled exam period.

Accommodations

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

Pregnancy obligation: write to me 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 accommodation regarding a formally scheduled final exam, you must complete the [Pregnancy Accommodation Form](#).

Religious obligation: write to me 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 [click here](#).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and 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 me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

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 where 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: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

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 will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Write to me 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>