English 3362: English Grammar

Instructor: Dr. John Foreman            Classroom: ELABS 178
Office: ELABS 231                      Class Time: TR 9:25-10:40am
Office Hours: MW 12:00-2:30; additional times by appt.
Contact: john.foreman@utrgv.edu, 665-3441

Final Exam: R 5/10 8:00-9:45am

Required Texts (additional reading may be handed out, posted to Blackboard or put on reserve in the library):

**TITLE:** Student's Introduction To English Grammar
by Rodney Huddleston and Geoffrey K. Pullum
**ISBN:** 05216-1288-8
**Publisher:** Cambridge Univ Pr
**Publish Date:** 14 March, 2005
**List Price:** USD 29.99

The book should be available in the campus bookstore (recent prices: $40 new, $32 used, $14 rent) and a Kindle edition is also available for around $20.00. Everyone should have the book by the second week of class.

**TITLE:** English 3362: English Grammar
by John Foreman
**Type:** Course Packet
**List Price:** $8.00 (approximately)

Available at CopyZone, 4131 N. 10th St., McAllen, TX (at 10th and Nolana in the Barnes and Noble Shopping Center). Everyone should have it by the second week of class and should bring it to every class. **If you have trouble getting down to CopyZone or otherwise have problems procuring the course packet please let me know ASAP.**

Course Description:
English 3362 provides a study of grammatical concepts with concentration on basic sentence structure, principles of punctuation, and functional grammar. It is designed to familiarize students with the fundamentals of English grammar, and to provide them with opportunities to analyze and construct English sentences of various internal patterns. The structure of sentences is highlighted as the roles of phrases and clauses within sentences are examined. The structure of individual words—the morphological system of English—is also amply surveyed. **Note that we may discuss all aspects of English grammar, including possibly taboo language.**
Student Learning Outcomes and Instructional Goals for Advanced English Courses:
1. Students will analyze and interpret a variety of texts and patterns of language, using a range of theoretical approaches and disciplinary modes of inquiry.
2. Students will demonstrate a broad and foundational knowledge of the traditions of American, British, Ethnic and/or World literatures by critically situating specific works of literature within these traditions.
3. Students will write coherently and demonstrate a consistent use of the conventions of a variety of genres, including, but not limited to, the academic essay.
4. Students will apply appropriate research methodologies, including appropriate use of electronic media, to understand and/or illuminate specific research questions about language and literature.
5. Students in certification tracks will demonstrate knowledge and skills in the areas of writing, literature, reading, oral communication, media literacy, and English language arts pedagogy.

Course Requirements: Grading Scale (to nearest whole number):
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>90-100 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>80-89 B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>70-79 C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>60-69 D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Credit</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>&lt; 60 F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Homework: There will be frequent homework assignments, usually multiple ones per class period. Unless otherwise noted, homework assignments will be due in two parts, and both must be completed before the due date (typically by the beginning of the following class period unless otherwise noted) in order to receive all credit for the homework assignments. The two steps are as follows:
1. Type up your homework in a computer file or write it out, take a picture/scan it and convert it into a computer file, which you then upload to Blackboard. I like the app CamScanner for this purpose.
2. Once you have uploaded a copy to Blackboard, an answer key will appear. Use the answer key to correct your homework. Again, you can write out the corrections on the original and then scan the corrections to upload or you can type in the corrections into a Word document, but make sure the Track Changes feature is turned on, so that the corrections are visible. However, it is done, CORRECTIONS MUST BE VISIBLE IN THE DOCUMENT. DO NOT SIMPLY UPLOAD THE ANSWER KEY.

Note the following:
- When submitting work to Blackboard, you may only submit one file once per assignment, and only certain file formats are allowed. So, make sure all of your homework responses are in a single file of the correct format (a Word doc is best).
- Occasionally Blackboard may be offline for maintenance or because of technical difficulties. Do NOT wait until the last minute to submit homework. Allow yourself time to overcome technical glitches.
- Do NOT merely upload a copy of the answer key to turn in. Make sure the
corrections are VISIBLE and OBVIOUS, either because they are written in by hand or because they use the Track Changes features of Word. If you get everything right, give yourself a checkmark, smiley face, etc.

- Both parts of the homework will receive a score. Both your original answers and the corrections must be uploaded. **Note that frequently, homework assignments must be completed in order to activate a quiz.** Such quizzes cannot be done without doing the homework first. It sometimes may be necessary to do homework to force the next item in Blackboard to open.

- I will be checking both for completeness. Once a grade has been entered, late homework will NOT be accepted. A low homework grade will be dropped to cover any unforeseeable absences.

- **Homework and corrections must be submitted to Blackboard before the beginning of class the next class day (or other announced due date) to receive credit.**

- Take the homework process seriously. It is there to help you learn. If you rush through the corrections without understanding them, you will get a point toward your grade but then you will not understand the material for quizzes and tests, which count a lot more than does your homework. If you go through the steps I have outlined and come to class prepared to ask questions on anything you don’t understand, you will be in good shape for the quizzes and tests.

**NOTE:** Some portions of the class may be "flipped" where you will be asked to watch videos and learn new material outside of class which we will then practice in class.

**Essays:** There will be a few short essays due throughout the semester and some writing on the exams. They will be graded both on content and form to take into account that this is a course on English grammar and that one of our goals for the course is to be able show competence in our writing in the areas of English grammar, usage, and mechanics (like spelling and punctuation). **Although the essays do not count as a significant portion of the final grade, an F in this area, especially if due to errors in mechanics/grammar, could result in an F in the course.** Take time on your essays to make sure they are not only correct in content but in form as well. Feel free to work with the writing center, get others to review work, or ask me for feedback on drafts.

**Quizzes:** There will be frequent, short quizzes, either given online or in class. They will cover previous lectures, assigned reading, and material that you should have practiced in homework assignments. In class quizzes will usually be no more than 10-15 minutes long, at the beginning of class. They will be collected for grading and then discussed in class. **Students arriving after the quiz is administered or who are absent that day will NOT be able to make up quizzes.** However, one low quiz grade will be dropped. **Students should be prepared for quizzes on most class days with or without previous warning.**

Online quizzes may be timed or untimed (it will be announced with the quiz). In some cases, you may also be able to retake the quiz multiple times until the due date. If that is the case, your highest grade will be recorded as your grade. **NOTE: Blackboard calls these quizzes**
“Tests,” but they will count as part of your quiz grade, not as part of your exam grade.

Exams: There will be three exams given throughout the course of the semester. These exams will be cumulative. They will cover both material covered in class and outside reading. If you have some documented emergency which prevents you from taking a test, the percentage of the grade that would have been assigned to that test will be added to the final exam. This will only be allowed for one test.

Final Exam: The final exam will be an in-class final exam, taking place during the scheduled final exam period on Thursday, May 10, 8:00-9:45am. The exam will be cumulative. Be sure to be available for this entire time period.

Extra Credit Opportunity: The Cross Linguistic Undergraduate Board (CLUB) hosts a weekly Linguistic Seminar Series on Tuesdays from 12:15-1:30 currently scheduled for ELABS 341 starting on January 30. Attending and signing in (be sure to note you are in ENGL 3362-05) will give you extra credit. The more you attend, the more extra credit. Each time you attend will be counted as an extra credit homework assignment with a score of 100. If you attend more than 5 times, you will additionally receive an extra credit quiz grade with a score of 100. More than 10 times and you will receive two such extra credit quiz grades. If you cannot make it to campus during those times, the events will also likely be available via Facebook. Ask me for details as the first event draws near. You will have to find a way to prove your attendance this way, perhaps by signing in some way or doing a screen capture or selfie or the like. Additionally, you may also look for other, extra events related to language or linguistics to receive credit. Email me details of the event and proof of attendance (like a selfie). Again, it must be in some way related to language, linguistics, or grammar.

Writing: This is an English course, and any writing will be evaluated not only for content but for form (clarity, organization, and correctness). Points will be deducted for significant issues in this area, and if significant issues persist, could lead to failure in the class.

NOTE: There is a lot of work for this course. This also means, however, that you have multiple chances to master the material. I have tried to weight things such that if you demonstrate mastery by the end of the course, it will be reflected in the final grade.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive academic accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to initiate services. Accommodations can be arranged through SAS at any time, but are not retroactive. Students who suffer a broken bone, severe injury or undergo surgery during the semester are eligible for temporary services. Brownsville Campus: Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at ability@utrgv.edu. Edinburg Campus: Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.
MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD:
Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (http://my.utrgv.edu); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades. Online evaluations will be available April 11 – May 2.

ATTENDANCE:
Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and may be dropped from the course for excessive absences. UTRGV’s attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY:
As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE:
In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “Responsible Employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

COURSE DROPS:
According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward
the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

**STUDENT SERVICES:**
Students who demonstrate financial need have a variety of options when it comes to paying for college costs, such as scholarships, grants, loans and work-study. Students should visit the Students Services Center (U Central) for additional information. U Central is located in BMAIN 1.100 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 1.145 (Edinburg) or can be reached by email (ucentral@utrgv.edu) or telephone: (888) 882-4026. In addition to financial aid, U Central can assist students with registration and admissions.

Students seeking academic help in their studies can use university resources in addition to an instructor’s office hours. University Resources include the Learning Center, Writing Center, Advising Center and Career Center. The centers provide services such as tutoring, writing help, critical thinking, study skills, degree planning, and student employment. Locations are:

- **Learning center:** BSTUN 2.10 (Brownsville) or ELCTR 100 (Edinburg)
- **Writing center:** BLIBR 3.206 (Brownsville) or ESTAC 3.119 (Edinburg)
- **Advising center:** BMAIN 1.400 (Brownsville) or ESWKH 101 (Edinburg)
- **Career center:** BCRTZ 129 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 2.101 (Edinburg)

**IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY DATES AND DEADLINES FOR SPRING 2018**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 16</td>
<td>First day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 19</td>
<td>Last day to add a course or register for spring 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12 – 17</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK – NO classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 30 – 31</td>
<td>EASTER HOLIDAY – NO classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Last day to drop a course; will count toward the 6-drop rule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>Study Day – NO class</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 4 – 10</td>
<td>Spring 2018 Final Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 11 - 12</td>
<td>Commencement Ceremonies</td>
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**Tentative Schedule of Topics** (Schedule of topics subject to change (with warning); students are responsible for keeping up with changes, which will be announced in class, via Blackboard, and/or via email).

- **Week 1** Introduction to course; the problem with traditional part of speech terms
- **Week 2** Diagnostics for Content Words; Brief Overview of Function Words
- **Week 3** Noun Subtypes
- **Week 4** Noun Phrases, Subjects, and Beginning Tree Structures
- **Week 5** Adjective and Adverb Phrases; Genitive NPs
- **Week 6** Complements and Adjuncts; Prepositional Phrases
- **Week 7** 2/27 Exam 1; Coordination and Fused-Heads
- **Week 8** Subject-Verb Agreement and Objects, PCs, Transitivity and Complexity
- **3/13-3/15** NO CLASS; SPRING BREAK
- **Week 9** Tree Structures with objects, PCs, and NP Adjuncts; Pronouns and Case
- **Week 10** Auxiliary Verbs and Uses; Irregular Verb Forms
- **Week 11** Passives; Distribution of Verb Forms
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Identifying and Using Verb Forms; <strong>April 12 Exam 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Clause Type and Content Clauses; Relative Clauses Part 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Relative Clauses, Part 2; Grammar and Punctuation, Part 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation, Part 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>May 10</strong></td>
<td><strong>8:00-9:45 am Final Exam</strong></td>
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