

INGL 3205 - The Grammar and Usage of English

1:00-2:20 T&Th, LPM 214B

Prof. Yolanda Rivera-Castillo
Office: 134 Janer Phone ext.: 89632

Office Hours: 9:50 - 12:50 T&Th,
or by appointment

Text: *Understanding and Using English Grammar* — Betty Schramper Azar

Course Description: English 3205 is designed for non-native speakers of English (intermediate level). It strengthens students' skills in language usage and the declarative knowledge of grammar. It emphasizes intensive practice in question and negative formation, placement of frequency adverbs, verb tenses, modals, gerund and infinitive phrases, nouns determiners, prepositions, and punctuation as it relates to grammatical structure.

Objectives: Students will engage in activities that require the production and understanding of language in context, as well as the application of knowledge of grammatical structures in writing exercises. Activities include functions such as paraphrasing, explaining, describing, asking and answering questions, and summarizing. They will complete tasks such as reporting about other people's opinions, describing others, conducting and writing interviews with question/answer exchanges, suggesting solutions for specific situations, telling about possible events and cause-effect relations, writing letters, among others. More advanced grammar tasks include completing grammar exercises, learning punctuation for complex clauses, and new function words.

Evaluation:

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| Chap. Exam | 15% |
| Final Exam | 25% |
| 2 compositions @ 10% | 20% |
| Participation | <u>40%</u> |
| Quality 20% (pop quizzes, homework); | |
| Effort 20% (active participation, readiness) | |
| | 100% |

Exam: There will be one chapter test and a final. Be sure to schedule your appointments so that they do not conflict with course examinations. If you miss a test without a valid written excuse, then your total average will reflect a missing score (a "0").

Attendance & Participation: A significant percentage of your grade depends on your daily participation in class (40%). You will be evaluated on your effort to use English in class, for completing your work on time, reading, writing short in-class compositions, and on the quality of your response. Perfect attendance and outstanding participation will provide the student additional percentage points. Skipping classes or failure to hand in assignments will lower your participation grade as well as your final grade. Every three late arrivals equal an absence. You cannot use your cell phone in class unless we include it in a specific activity.

Compositions: There will be two in-class compositions. The professor will provide the topic the day of the composition and will assign a reading to prepare for this exercise. If you miss a composition, then your total average will reflect a missing score.

Homework: I will assume that you have prepared the assigned readings and exercises before class. It is important that you complete these at home, so that class time can be spent interacting and communicating in English. If you do this before coming to class, and follow the syllabus, your acquisition of English and your understanding of grammar will improve. I might give a pop quiz on the material assigned for the day. You cannot study for this class only on the day before the exam. All work is due on the day assigned. Failure to turn in work on time will result in a zero.

Grading System: A, B, C, D, F

Students with special needs will be provided reasonable accommodation in evaluation procedures according to their needs (Ley 51):

“Los estudiantes que reciban servicios de Rehabilitación Vocacional deben comunicarse con el (la) profesor(a) al inicio del semestre para planificar el acomodo razonable y equipo asistivo necesario conforme a las recomendaciones de la Oficina de Asuntos para las Personas con Impedimento (OAPI) del Deacanato de Estudiantes. También aquellos estudiantes con necesidades especiales que requieren algún tipo de asistencia o acomodo deben comunicarse con el (la) profesor(a).”

NEED HELP? I will be happy to help you during office hours with anything related to the course material. Call me during my office hours or leave a message. During class time, it's up to you to let me know if you do not understand. Do not let things go too far before you ask for help. **¡GOOD LUCK!**

SCHEDULE:

| DATES | TOPIC/ACTIVITIES (IN-CLASS) | TEXT & MATERIAL |
|------------------|---|----------------------------|
| August | | |
| 21 | Introduction | Syllabus, writing exercise |
| 23 | Review grammar terminology/Reading | Unit A (Appendix): A1-A7 |
| 28 | Monday Classes | |
| 30 | Review grammar terminology | Chapter 2, pps. 13-19 |
| September | | |
| 2 | Describing events and people/ Present, progressive | Chapter 2, pps. 19-27 |
| 6 | Telling stories/ Past Tense | Chapter 2, pps. 27-33 |
| 11 | Things that happened before/ Present Perfect | Chapter 3: pps. 34-45 |
| 13 | A long time ago/ Past Perfect | Chapter 3: pps. 45-50 |
| 18 | My plans/ Future | Chapter 4: pps. 51-61 |

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| 20 | Organizing and plans/ Future Perfect | Chapter 4: pps. 62-64 |
| 25 | <i>Fates worst than death-Vonnegut</i> | Conversation, writing and reading exercises |
| 27 | Review | Hand-out |
| October | | |
| 2 | Partial exam | |
| 4 | How it happened/ Adverbs | Chapter 5: pps. 65-82 |
| 9 | Conversation/ Pronouns | Chapter 8: pps. 131-137 |
| 11 | Talking about yourself and others/ Reflexive pronouns | Chapter 8: pps. 138-150 |
| 16 | My BFF: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/06/10/friend-breakup-stories_n_3417347.html | Conversation, writing and reading exercises |
| 18 | Composition #1 | Reading and composition |
| 23 | Three is a crowd/ Number and nouns | Chapter 7: pps. 99-111 |
| 25 | I know him-her-it/ Definite nouns | Chapter 7: pps. 112-122 |
| 30 | Quantity | Chapter 7: pps. 123-130 |
| November | | |
| 1 | She-he knows/ Subject-Verb Agreement | Chapter 6: pps. 84-90 |
| 6 | Whodunnit/ Impersonal agreement | Chapter 6: pps. 90-98 |
| 8 | Curious/ Questions | Unit B: A8-A12 |
| 13 | Interview/ Questions | Unit B: A12-A16 |
| 15 | Select interview at: http://depthome.brooklyn.cuny.edu/latinashistory/biographies_1.html | Conversation, writing and reading exercises |
| 20 | What to say in a difficult situation/ Negation | Unit D: A18-A19 |
| 22-24 | Thanksgiving | |
| 27 | Describing oppositions/ Negation | Unit D: A20-A24 |
| 29 | Composition #2 | Reading and composition |
| December | | |
| 4 | Review | Hand-out |
| 6 | Review | Hand-out |
| 12-19 | FINAL EXAMS | |