

ENGL 0340 Grammar and Composition for Foreign Speakers I

Course Description

ENGL 0340 English Grammar and Conversation for Foreign Speakers I
Credit: 3 (3 lecture, 1 lab)

A course in English grammar and conversation. This course is intended to aid foreign students in acquiring fluency in spoken English. The approach is communicative, involving grammar study, oral exercises, dialogues, and role playing. All four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) are developed.

Prerequisites

A satisfactory score on the CELSA.

Course Goals (includes competencies, incorporation of SCANS, etc.)

This course is a grammar and conversation class for low-intermediate non-native English speakers. Students learn basic English to prepare for the next English class in the sequence, ENGL 0341. Many students are taking other college courses in addition to this ESL course and are working toward an academic degree. Therefore, emphasis is placed on establishing the language skills sufficient for successful college study. The course is also helpful for those students who want to improve their English for personal or professional reasons.

Instructor Information

Provided by the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Textbook Information

Focus on Grammar: An Intermediate Course for Reference and Practice, by Margorie Fuchs; 2nd ed. (Required)

Focus on Grammar Workbook: An Intermediate Course for Reference and Practice, by Fuchs; 2nd ed. (Required)

Longman Dictionary of American English (Optional)

Lab Requirements (if any)

One of the four instructional hours per week is a lab hour, so called because this time is to be used for practice rather than instruction. This hour is typically spent on interactive, conversational activities in the classroom. In addition, a Learning Assistance Center (LAC) or computer lab is available at campuses where Academic ESL is offered.

Instructors schedule time for a student orientation to the software designed for individualized tutorials. Some teachers take their classes to the LAC several times during the semester, but the lab is more widely used by students outside of class time.



Students with Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disabilities Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of the semester.

Academic Honesty

Houston Community College defines "scholastic dishonesty" as: cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. Penalties for academic dishonesty at HCCS include, but are not limited to: a "0" on that test or assignment, a "W" in the course, or an "F" in the course.

Attendance and Withdrawal Policies

Students are required to attend classes regularly. However, they may miss up to 12.5% of class time if necessary. In ENGL 0340, no more than eight hours of absence are permitted. If students miss more than eight hours, the instructor may drop them and record a W as a final grade.

Course Requirements and Grading Policy

By the end of the semester, the student who passes with a final grade of C or better will have demonstrated:

Reasonably accurate use of major English grammatical patterns in speech

Improved English pronunciation

Increased comprehension of informal spoken English

Broader vocabulary and improved fluency

Ability to use standard writing conventions (spelling, capitalization, punctuation)

An average of 70% or higher on oral assignments and tests

The following formula is used to calculate the student's final grade:

Quizzes 40% Homework 10% Participation 10% Final Oral 20% Final Objective 20%

Testing

A diagnostic oral interview and written diagnostic test are given during the first week of the semester to confirm students' placement into ENGL 0340. In addition, there are four major tests on listening comprehension and the grammar covered in class. Instructors may also give short quizzes as needed. The Final Exam consists of a comprehensive, objective grammar test and an oral interview with the instructor.

Make-up policy

The make-up policy is determined by the instructor and included in the instructor's syllabus for this course.

Projects, Assignments, Portfolios, Service Learning, Internships, etc.

An instructor may choose to include projects or special assignments to reinforce the material covered in class.

Course Content

The course calendar includes units on:

Simple present tense

Present continuous

Simple past

Past continuous

WH-questions

Be Going to

Present perfect

Present perfect continuous

Adjectives: equatives, comparatives, superlatives

Adverbs: equatives, comparatives, superlatives

Infinitives

Modals:

ability: can, could, be able to; permission: may, could, can, do you mind if....; requests:

will, would, could, can, would you mind; suggestions: let's, how about, why don't...?

preference: would prefer, would rather; necessity: must, have to, must not, don't have to;
future possibility: may, might, could; assumptions: may, might, could, must, have to, can't
Nouns and quantifiers



Course Calendar with Reading Assignments

ENGL 0340 GRAMMAR CALENDAR

(This is a tentative schedule a)

Week 1

Introduction to course; Diagnostic procedures; Contrast Simple Present and Present Continuous (Unit 1)

Week 2

Used to (Unit 4); Past Continuous and Simple Past Tense (Unit 5)

Week 3

Be going to (Unit 6) ; Wh- Questions (Unit 8)

Week 4

Modals/Ability: Can, Could, Be able to (Unit 11); Permission: May, Could, Can,
Do you mind if . . . ? (Unit 12)

Week 5

Review and take Quiz 1

Week 6

Go over Quiz 1; Modals/Requests: Will, Would, Could, Can, Would you mind ? (Unit13)
Advice: Should, Ought to, Had better (Unit 14)

Week 7

Suggestions: Let's, How about. ..?, Why don't. ?, Why not. ..? (Unit 15) ; Present Perfect:
with for and since time signals (Unit 16)

Week 8

Present Perfect: Already and Yet (Unit 17)
Present Perfect: Indefinite Past (Unit 18)

Week 9

Contrast Present Perfect and Simple Past Tense (Unit 19)

Week 10

Review and take Quiz 2

Week 11

Go over Quiz 2; Adjectives: Equatives, Comparatives, and Superlatives (Units 22--24)

Week 12

Necessity: Must, Have to, Must not, Don't have to (Unit 33)

Future Possibility: May, Might, Could (Unit 35)

Week 13

Assumptions: May, Might, Could, Must, Have to, Have got to, Can't (Unit 36)

Week 14

Review and take Quiz 3

Week 15

Oral Final Exam; Final Objective Exam Review

Week 16

Final Objective Exam: (See HCCS Schedule of Classes for date and time.) and may be changed to meet the needs of the class.)