

# ENGLISH 342A: ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND USAGE

## FALL 2016: COURSE DESCRIPTION

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### DETAILS

Instructor: John M. Ware

Office: Main 331

Office hours: Thursday 4:00-5:00; Wednesday/Friday 2:00-3:30

Online office-hours calendar: <https://johnmware.youcanbook.me/>

Office phone: 597-4362

Email: [warejm@wofford.edu](mailto:warejm@wofford.edu)

### COURSE MATERIALS

The following text is required and available from the Wofford College Bookstore:

Martha Kolln, Loretta Gray, and Joseph Salvatore, *Understanding English Grammar*, 10<sup>th</sup> ed. (Pearson, 2016).

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 342 introduces students to an accessible account of English grammar—the rules governing the use of English—that native speakers of the language learn as members of English-speaking communities. While we will, throughout the course, be attuned to differences in grammar across varieties of English, we'll pay particular attention to the rules of Edited American English—the written form of English most often associated with education and formal media. As we study the rules for producing grammatical sentences, we will also study the conventions and expectations regarding written English that people often associate with grammar.

This survey of English grammar and usage involves some study of the history of English, detailed analysis of syntax (the structure of sentences) and morphology (the structure of words), and discussion of writing and rhetoric (composition informed by purpose and audience). After completing the course, you will be able to:

- Identify and describe the patterns of grammatical sentences;
- Identify and describe the elements of grammatical sentences;
- Recognize and describe the variety of forms that serve as elements in grammatical sentences;
- Identify and revise ungrammatical sentences;
- Revise grammatical sentences to better communicate intent;
- Understand and explain the concept of language varieties in relation to Edited American English (EAE) and African American Vernacular English (AAVE).

### GRADED COURSEWORK

Tests will typically ask you to demonstrate both your understanding of the central ideas discussed in the text up to that point in the class and also your ability to work with those ideas in ways that move beyond the text. Electronic versions of previous tests are available through Moodle. Test 3 will be given on the date of our final exam and will involve material covered after test 2.

In addition to the tests, I expect you to attend class regularly, complete the assigned reading, and contribute to class discussion. The exercises in the textbook are invaluable for understanding the material; please be prepared to discuss them in class.

## **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION**

Attendance, preparation, and participation contribute 25% to your final grade. A general, but not binding, way of conceiving of the effect of attendance on your grade is as follows: with 1-3 absences, you may still earn an A in attendance; with 3-5 absences, you may still earn a B in attendance; with 5-7 absences, you may still earn a C or a D in attendance; with 7-9 absences, you will likely receive an F (00) in attendance; with more than 9 absences, you will not get credit for this course. Alert me to necessary absences and unusual circumstances; retain documentation of absences. With supporting documentation, absences due to official college events will not negatively affect your grade, but they will count as absences.

If you enter class after I have checked the roll, you are late, and it is your responsibility to see me immediately after class to be certain that I count you as present. If you are more than fifteen minutes late to class, you are welcome to stay, but I will not give you credit for having attended.

## **GRADES**

The following are the graded assignments for this course:

- Test 1 (25%)
- Test 2 (25%)
- Test 3 (25%)
- Attendance and Participation (25%)

Grades are represented on a 100-point scale, but you can convert them to a letter grade according to the following:

- 93-100: A; 90-92: A-
- 87-89: B+; 83-86: B; 80-82: B-
- 77-79: C+; 73-76: C; 70-72: C-
- 60-69: D
- 00-59: F

Your grade is something you earn, and you have every right to be concerned about it. Please visit me during my office hours or schedule a time to meet with me if you have any questions or concerns about your grade.

## **MOODLE**

This course will rely on Moodle for the distribution of some assignments, the online gradebook feature, and the submission of reading journals.

## **OFFICE HOURS, EMAIL, PHONE**

Office hours are times during which you can drop by my office without prior notice and with the assurance that I will be there unless I have indicated otherwise. Please take advantage of this time to discuss any aspects of this class. I will gladly meet with you at other times; we simply need to arrange to do so. My office phone number is 597-4362, but the most effective way to contact me is by [email](#).

## **THE HONOR CODE**

The Wofford College Honor Pledge charges students to uphold the integrity of the College. Failure to properly acknowledge one's sources or to appropriately quote, paraphrase, or summarize constitutes plagiarism, which is an honor code violation. All writing for this class is to originate with this class. If you wish to use writing from an earlier point in your academic career, you need to discuss this matter with me prior to submitting any assignment.

## **REQUESTS**

Food, phones, and laptops/tablets.

## **RESOURCES**

Wofford College offers services related to students' academic performance and personal wellbeing: [The Writing Center](#) and the [Wellness Center](#) are two to be familiar with.

Monday	Wednesday	Friday
[1] 9/5	[2] 9/7 Due: Kolln/Gray/Salvatore (K/G/S): ch. 1	[3] 9/9
[4] 9/12 K/G/S: ch. 2	[5] 9/14	[6] 9/16 K/G/S: ch. 3 (patterns 1-3)
[7] 9/19 K/G/S: ch. 3 (patterns 4-7)	[8] 9/21 K/G/S: ch. 3 (patterns 8-10)	[9] 9/23
[10] 9/26 K/G/S: ch. 4	[11] 9/28	[12] 9/30
[13] 10/3 K/G/S: ch. 5	[14] 10/5 Review	[15] 10/7 <u>Test 1</u>
[16] 10/10 K/G/S: ch. 6	[17] 10/12	[--] 10/14 Fall Recess
[18] 10/17 K/G/S: ch. 7	[19] 10/19	[20] 10/21
[21] 10/24 K/G/S: ch. 8	[22] 10/26	[23] 10/28 K/G/S: ch. 9
[24] 10/31	[25] 11/2 K/G/S: ch. 10	[26] 11/4 Review
[27] 11/7 <u>Test 2</u>	[28] 11/9 K/G/S: ch. 11	[29] 11/11
[30] 11/14 K/G/S: ch. 12	[31] 11/16	[32] 11/18 K/G/S: ch. 13
[33] 11/21 K/G/S: ch. 14	[--] 11/23 Thanksgiving Recess	[--] 11/25 Thanksgiving Recess
[34] 11/28 AAVE	[35] 11/30 AAVE	[36] 12/2 AAVE
[37] 12/5 K/G/S: ch. 15	[38] 12/7 K/G/S: ch. 16	[39] 12/9 Review
<u>Test 3: Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2:00-5:00</u>		