

ESOL 1406: Basic English Sentence Structure

CRN: 16039 | Semester/Year: Fall 2023

Instructor: Tracy A. Huhn

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Class Meetings Time: 5:00 - 6:20 p.m. (17:00 - 18:20)

Class Day and Location: Mondays at CRBL C201

Office Hours: Mondays after class (6:20 - 7:00 p.m.) or by appointment.

Virtual Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays (5:00 - 6:00 p.m.) by appointment.

****The syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.***

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on English language usage and grammar in context. Using a task-based, communicative approach to teaching and learning, students engage in reading, writing, listening and speaking activities to enhance their knowledge and understanding of grammatical rules and structures, their meaning, and their usage with specific communicative functions. The course includes activities to learn and practice a variety of structures, such as verb tenses and modals, gerunds and infinitives, phrasal verbs, conjunctions, and different types of clauses, among others. The aim is to achieve a balance between fluency and accuracy and to improve students' overall communicative competence.

HYBRID COURSE DELIVERY

This section of ESOL 1406 is delivered in a hybrid format, with some class sessions held in the classroom and other instructional sessions or components conducted online. Hybrid classes demand that students develop good organizational and time-management skills, that they interact with instructors and classmates via computer-mediated communication as needed or required, and that students develop the ability to work independently. As with any other class, it is important to attend all sessions and it is crucial to devote the necessary computer time to the class (see attendance policy).

OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, students are expected to be able to do the following, in both spoken and written texts, and at a level of accuracy appropriate for English language learners with a high-intermediate level of proficiency:

- Use a variety of verb tenses (present, past, future) and aspects (progressive, perfect), orally and written English.
- Recognize the relationship between verb forms and their meanings in context.
- Understand the relationship between subjects and predicates in different types of sentences.
- Use different parts of speech such as nouns, determiners, adjectives, and adverbs in spoken and written English.
- Differentiate between types of verbs (e.g., modals, phrasal, transitive, intransitive) and use them in spoken and written English.
- Use different types of pronouns (subject, object, reflexive,) appropriately.
- Understand and produce basic and complex sentences (e.g., sentences with subordinate clauses), especially in reading and writing tasks.
- Identify and correct common grammatical errors in written texts.

WHY GET INVOLVED?

Whether you are a new, transfer, or returning student, being involved is one of the most important aspects of your college education. Not only will you increase your likelihood of graduation, but you will also strengthen your skills and develop your Edge Advantage, which will assist you in finding meaningful employment and pursuing graduate studies. Through the Edge Experiences, UTEP provides you with great opportunities to explore your potential, take risks, and try out new things and ideas.

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Here are some other reasons to get involved:

- It will make your college experience a valuable and enjoyable one.
- You will be part of the campus community and make new friends.
- You will build better relationships with other students, staff, and faculty.
- You will build a support network.
- It will enhance your interpersonal and leadership skills that are necessary for driving change.
- You will fulfill your civic and social awareness and responsibilities.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

- As a college student, determining how to invest your time and energy will have a great impact on your college experience. To determine what sparks your interest, consider the following questions:
- What activities have you been involved with in the past that you have enjoyed? Some examples include student organizations, part-time employment, academic competitions, and community service.
- What are some new things you want to do while you are in college? For example, meet new friends, step out of your shell, and build leadership skills.
- What are your strengths? These may include listening to others, making others feel included, maintaining an active social media presence, and meeting people of different cultures and backgrounds.

CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS

- 1) Apply the grammatical knowledge acquired and practiced in class to the comprehension and production of texts in English.
- 2) Engage in learning activities to identify, analyze, and produce the grammatical forms and apply rules presented in class.
- 3) Participate in classroom activities in order to understand the role of grammatical knowledge in communication.
- 4) Review information presented in class and complete all homework and CALL Activities assignments.
- 5) Attend all classes.

COURSE & TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Some course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. You will need:

- ✓ A working UTEP email account, in case their instructor needs to contact them or vice-versa.
- ✓ Stable internet access, especially if the COVID-19 pandemic urges the course to go fully online.
- ✓ Access to Blackboard (Bb).
- ✓ If students don't understand how Blackboard works or any handouts or assignments, they are responsible to ask their instructor at their earliest convenience before it is too late to assist them. They shouldn't wait until to last minute.
- ✓ A Blackboard-friendly browser—Google Chrome & Mozilla Firefox are the best. DO NOT use Safari or MS Edge.
- ✓ MS Office: you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and more) **for free** via UTEP's Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about Microsoft Office 365 and follow the steps to download the software:
https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/ServiceCatalog/SOFTWARE_PAGES/soft_microsoftoffice365.html and follow the instructions.
- ✓ Respondus Lockdown Browser for free from UTEP's blackboard's page under Tools.

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IMPORTANT:

Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course. If your browser is not equipped to navigate the new Blackboard environment, then you may contact the technology “help” desk.

If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP Help Desk (helpdesk@utep.edu) as they are trained specifically in assisting with the technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

ESOL LAB Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL) Activities – LART 238

In addition to regular classroom sessions, **students are required to complete 15 hours in the ESOL Lab**. They will have the opportunity to attend the lab either online or in person, but the availability of an in-person option may increase or decrease depending on COVID conditions. The lab offers writing tutoring, computer-assisted language learning (CALL) activities, conversation practice, and other activities. Students may also visit UTEP’s online Writing Center to complete their ESOL lab hours. For more information, please visit our Home Page on blackboard.

***Students must have 7 hours by week 8 as part of their Midterm Grade.**

Failure to complete the assigned lab exercises and activities can significantly lower the course grade. The class instructor will monitor students’ work and keep a record of the grades.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

To learn the grammatical forms, rules, and structures presented and practiced in class or online, it is crucial to dedicate time outside of class to review the material and complete homework assignments. Failure to complete homework assignments (online or in-person) can lower the course grade considerably or result in a failing grade.

IN-PERSON CLASS PARTICIPATION

You will be required to participate in activities that will count **10%** towards your final grade.

EXTRA CREDIT

You have the option of earning up to a maximum of 2% extra credit towards your final grade in this course. You can do this by completing extra credit assignments towards the end of the course or by participating in one or more research studies (approved by the ESOL Director) if they are offered to your class. Each assignment or study participation is worth 1% extra credit.

GRADING

Course evaluation measures include weekly quizzes, a mid-term and a final exam, as well as homework and computer lab activities. There will be no make-up quizzes or exams. Exceptions to this rule will be made only in case of illness or serious medical issues, and only if appropriately documented.

The course grade is determined as follows:

Grades are assigned on this scale:

Type	Percentage	Total Points	Grade
Homework Assignments	10%	90-100	A
Quizzes	15%	80-89	B
ESOL Lab (15 Hours Total)	15%	75-79	C
Participation	10%	74-60	D
Midterm Exam (*7 Hours ESOL Lab)	25%	0-59	F
Final Exam	25%		

In order to pass the course, a grade of “C” or higher must be obtained. If a grade of “D” or “F” is obtained, the course must be retaken.

POLICIES

Assignments

- It is very important to submit all major assignments and take the corresponding exams in order to obtain a passing grade. All assignments must be completed and turned in on the scheduled dates. Any assigned work that is not submitted by the due date will not get the corresponding points/credit. Late work will not be accepted. Exams should be taken on scheduled dates. No make-up exams will be given. Exceptions to these rules may be considered only for medical emergencies (or similar extraordinary circumstances) which must be properly documented.
- All work must be edited and revised. Written assignments that do not conform to the specifications outlined by the instructor may receive a failing grade. Students are strongly encouraged to go to the Writing Center at the library or to consult with ESOL tutors (depending on availability) in order to revise and edit their work before submitting it.

Academic Honesty

- Students are expected to adhere to and comply with standards of academic honesty. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. All cases are reported to the Dean of Students for administrative and/or academic sanctions, which may include expulsion. All work submitted must be original (created by each student for the class) and any information from external sources must be properly cited. Work from other courses may not be submitted for grade. Forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to): **collusion**—lending your work to another person to submit as his or her own; **fabrication**—deliberately creating false information on a works cited page, and **plagiarism**—the presentation of another person's work as your own (e.g., copying parts of or whole papers off the Internet).
- Any type of cheating or plagiarism constitutes a violation to university policies and to the code of conduct to which all students must adhere. Violations are reported to the Dean of Students. See the website at <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm> for more information.
- As in any course, each student MUST do his/her own work. However, this does not rule out getting assistance or guidance from the class instructor or university tutors. It is important to differentiate between this type of help and non-acceptable types. Some examples of 'help' that is NOT acceptable include copying papers or parts of papers, copying on tests, using "cheat sheets," having someone else do one's work, letting someone else change parts of one's work, or using texts from a published source (magazine, book, or newspaper) without proper documentation.

Copyright and Fair Use

The University of Texas at El Paso requires all members of its community to follow copyright and fair use requirements. Students are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend students nor assume any responsibility for student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject students to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under university policies.

Students with Disabilities

- Students who need special instructional accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability should report to the Disabled Students Services Offices (DSSO), located in the East Union Building, room 302. Students with a documented sensory and/or learning disability may receive special accommodations according to university policies. It is the student responsibility to contact the instructor after contacting the DSSO to ensure provision of such accommodations.

Accommodations and Counseling Services

- Center for Accommodations and Support Services: Assists students with ADA-related accommodations. Students who need accommodations, go to <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/> and if you want to contact staff at CASS, send them a message CASS@UTEP.EDU.
- Counseling and Psychological Services: Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.

Attendance and Participation

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- During the fall or spring semester, students accumulating 3 absences will NOT receive a passing grade in the class. A warning will be given to students once they reach 2 absences. If a student is absent 3 times, the student will receive a notification advising them to drop the class. **It is up to the student to drop the class. Instructors will NOT drop the student.**
- It is also important to keep in mind that students may also fail the class for lack of effort (e.g., not turning in major assignments on time). Exceptions due to medical emergencies or illness must be properly documented.
- Late arrivals and early departures will also carry penalties for purposes of dropping or lowering the course grade (two late arrivals equal one absence, two early departures equal one absence, and one late arrival plus one early departure equal one absence). It is the responsibility of each student who arrives late to notify the instructor at the end of the class period so his/her attendance can be recorded.
- The final course grade can be lowered by 1 point for every absence in MWF courses, 1.5 points for every absence in TR courses, and 2.5 points for every absence in summer courses.

Exceptions to the above-stated attendance policies are only made under the following circumstances: (1) a medical emergency requiring hospitalization, (2) jury duty, or (3) official UTEP business such as athletics, debating team, or band. These circumstances must be properly documented (official proof). Documentary proof of official UTEP business or jury duty must be provided ten calendar days before the fact; documentation of hospitalization must be provided as soon as possible.

NOTE: Students who are sick and may be contagious should NOT come to class. If you do not have medical documentation that you are too sick to come to class, your two allowable unexcused absences can be used without penalty, and you may make up the classwork. It is therefore important that you do not miss class unless absolutely necessary, so you have the allowable absences available in case of illness.

ADDITIONAL HELPFUL INFORMATION

Academic Advising Center	Academic Advising, 1st floor	747-5290
Department of Latin-US and Linguistics	Graham Hall 203	747-5767
Enrollment Services	Academic Services Building 101	747-6186
ESOL Lab and Tutoring Services	Liberal Arts 238	747-5767
Financial Aid	Academic Services 204	747-5204
International Programs	Union East 203	747-5664
Office of Student Life	Union West 102	747-5648
Registration and Records	Academic Services 123	747-5544
Student Health Center	Union East 100	747-5624
Scholarships	Academic Services Building 202	747-5478
Counseling Center	Union West 202	747-5302
University Career Center	Union West 103	747-5640
UTEP Library	1900 Wiggins Way	747-5640
MLA & APA Documentation Style	Purdue Owl	-
Writing Center	University Library 227	747-5112
Student Engagement & Leadership Center	Union West 106	747-5670

ESOL SEQUENCE OF COURSES

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Students enrolled in ESOL courses are required to take courses in sequence according to their placement into the program. The sequence of courses in the ESOL program is as follows:

Level 1) ESOL 1910

Level 2) ESOL 1610

Level 3) ESOL 1406 & ESOL 1309 (both must be completed before enrolling in the next courses)

Level 4) ESOL 1311 & ESOL 1310 (both must be completed before enrolling in the next course) Level

5) ESOL 1312

Note 1: ESOL 1311 and ESOL 1312 are credit-bearing courses with credits that count toward graduation, as they are equivalent to ENGL 1311 and ENGL 1312 (required first year composition courses at UTEP).

Note 2: All ESOL courses must be passed with a "C" or better before enrolling in the next course. Students who receive a D or F must retake the course and pass with a C or better before enrolling in the next level.