ENG 240: PEDAGOGICAL GRAMMAR

Linguistics Section • Department of English Studies • University of Cyprus

Fall Semester 2018: Mondays & Thursdays, 12.00–13.30 @ Room ΧΩΔ2 016
plus labs on Wednesdays, 10.00–11.00 or 11.00–12.00 with Dr. Natalia Pavlou

ONLINE COURSE MATERIALS: http://blackboard.ucy.ac.cy

Prof. Kleanthes K. Grohmann (M104 / www.kleanthes.biolinguistics.org)
Office Hours: Mon & Thu 13.30–14.30 by appointment (in class / kleanthi@ucy.ac.cy)

DESCRIPTION

The course presents an overview of the grammar of English and focuses on topics in English grammar that are relevant to the EFL teacher. It aims at both improving students’ own English usage and analyzing problems in English usage of EFL learners. [taken from the UCY undergraduate catalogue; to be adapted along the following lines:] This course offers a descriptive survey of English grammar with the background of core theoretical notions and as such is the perfect preparation for ENG 260–269, in which we will explore theoretical syntax and morphology more systematically.

ASSESSMENT

Regular attendance is strongly advised! Besides the class lectures, you will be graded as follows:

1. two sets of exercise assignments (homework/HWK) (30%)
2. one in-class exam covering all to date (mid-term) (20%)
3. one in-class exam covering the entire course (final) (50%)
4. presence & active participation in class throughout (±x...)

Both in-class exams will be closed-book settings. The final will be held in class during the exam period and it will cover the entire course. The homework exercises are to be completed alone; they must be typewritten (except for drawing tree structures). Cheating in any way will result in a failed course grade — the same goes for any attempt of plagiarism, in which case the issue will go much further. (For more on plagiarism, read my manifesto on Blackboard — this is very important!) Note that labs form a compulsory component of this course and poor attendance may result in a fail.

READINGS

All classes will follow the same pattern:

(i) I will assign you readings,
(ii) which you will read for next class,
(iii) when I will lecture on that material.

Coupled with the fact that the material we will cover might be quite abstract and difficult at times, this also means: It is very important that you attend all classes — if you want to pass the course! Classes will be crucial and equally crucial will be that you (try to) understand everything we do.

On the syllabus you’ll find your reading assignments. Feel free to take a stab at all the exercises that are provided within an assigned reading unit; we will discuss most of them in the lab classes as well.

There is one required textbook which every student should have a copy of:

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Original version (3 September 2018)

SCHEDULE

WEEK 1:    September 3    overview: The Language Machine (K&Z: Introduction)
           September 6    Categories and Features (K&Z: ch. 1)

WEEK 2:    September 10   Categories and Features (K&Z: ch. 1)
           September 13   Merge (K&Z: ch. 2)

WEEK 3:    September 17   Merge (K&Z: ch. 2)
           September 20   Merge (K&Z: ch. 2)

WEEK 4:    September 24   Theta Theory (K&Z: ch. 3)
           September 27   Theta Theory (K&Z: ch. 3)

           HWK 1, due OCT 3 (lab)

WEEK 5:    October 1      NO CLASS [BANK HOLIDAY]
           October 4      Theta Theory (K&Z: ch. 3)

WEEK 6:    October 8      Theta Theory (K&Z: ch. 3)
           October 11     Case Theory (K&Z: ch. 4)

WEEK 7:    October 15     Case Theory (K&Z: ch. 4)
           October 18     Case Theory (K&Z: ch. 4)

WEEK 8:    October 22     Case Theory (K&Z: ch. 4)
           October 25     MID-TERM EXAM (K&Z: chs. 1–4)

WEEK 9:    October 29     Agreement and Uninterpretable Features (K&Z: ch. 5)
           November 1     Agreement and Uninterpretable Features (K&Z: ch. 5)

WEEK 10:   November 5     Agreement and Uninterpretable Features (K&Z: ch. 5)
           November 8     Agreement and Uninterpretable Features (K&Z: ch. 5)

WEEK 11:   November 12    Movement and Remerge (K&Z: ch. 6)
           November 15    Movement and Remerge (K&Z: ch. 6)

           HWK 2, due NOV 21 (lab)

WEEK 12:   November 19    Movement and Remerge (K&Z: ch. 6)
           November 22    Unifying Movement and Agreement (K&Z: ch. 7)

WEEK 13:   November 26    Unifying Movement and Agreement (K&Z: ch. 7)
           November 29    Unifying Movement and Agreement (K&Z: ch. 7)

FINAL:     EXAM PERIOD    T.B.A. (K&Z: chs. 1–7)