

University of North Texas at Dallas

Fall 2025

SYLLABUS

Ling2380.0071 : How English Works - 3 hrs.

Department of	Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Rhetoric School of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Instructor Name	Dr. MaryLynn Patton
Office Location	Adjunct Offices
Email Address	Marylynn.patton@untdallas.edu
Office Hours	By appointment
Virtual Office Hours	Friday 10am-12pm (please email to set up an appointment during this time)
Course Format/Structure	Online
Classroom Location	Online
Class Meeting Days & Times	Asynchronous
Course Catalog Description	A systematic survey of the structure of contemporary English with emphasis on grammatical constructions used in a variety of written discourses.
Prerequisites	None
Corequisites	None
Required Reading	Selected readings and handouts posted on Canvas:
Recommended Technology	You will need a laptop that is camera ready or compatible with a computer camera.
Access to Learning Resources	UNT Dallas Library: Phone: (972) 338-1616; Website URL: http://www.untdallas.edu/library UNT Dallas Bookstore: Phone: (972) 780-3652; Website URL: http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore Email: untdallas@bkstr.com

<p>Canvas Resources</p> <p>Supported Browsers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Chrome <p>Supported Devices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · iPhone · Android · Chromebook <p><i>Note: Tablet users can use the Canvas app</i></p> <p>Screen Readers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · VoiceOver (Safari) · JAWS (Internet Explorer) · NVDA (Firefox) <p><i>Note: There is no screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome</i></p>	<p>Getting Help with Canvas:</p> <p>Canvas 24/7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-668-8634</p> <p>Canvas Help Resources:</p> <p>Canvas Student Guide - https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701</p> <p>For additional assistance, contact UNT Dallas Distance Learning: DAL1, Room 157 Email: distancelearning@untdallas.edu</p> <p>If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, please keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress.</p> <p>If you have a course-related issue (e.g., course content, assignment trouble, quiz difficulties), please contact me during office hours or by email.</p>
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Course Overview

Course Goals/Overview:

As a systematic survey of the structure of contemporary English, this course focuses on the development of three types of content knowledge: 1) the (meta-)language needed to talk about English; 2) the skills needed to represent the relationship between English phrases, clauses, and sentences; and 3) the various stylistic and grammatical issues that are important to writers.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

1. demonstrate facilitation skills by engaging team members that aids in constructively building a consensus on the role linguistic attitudes play in language use (Teamwork).
2. collaborate as a team to produce a group analysis of the grammar choices in a selected text (Teamwork)
3. systematically analyze one's own and others' assumptions and carefully evaluate the relevance of contexts when presenting a position (Critical Thinking)

4. employ information taken from sources with enough interpretation/evaluation to develop a comprehensive analysis or synthesis (Critical Thinking)
5. recognize the complex and multilayered context through which dialects such as African American Vernacular English are evaluated in society (Personal Responsibility)
6. appropriately select a format, language style, or audio platform (or other aural styles) in ways to enhance meaning during an oral presentation (Aural Communication)
7. use a variety of supporting materials to make appropriate reference to information or analysis that significantly supports or establishes credibility/authority on the topic of English grammar (Visual Communication)
8. master delivery techniques (posture, gesture, eye contact, and vocal expressiveness) to enhance clarity and meaning during an oral presentation (Oral Communication)
9. communicate appropriate, relevant, and compelling sociolinguistic content through writing (Written Communication)

Course Outline and Discussion Topics

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Canvas announcements.

Week	Dates	Topics	Readings/Activities/ Assignments due Wednesday at midnight	Readings/Activities/ Assignments due Sunday at midnight
1	August 25- August 31	Introduction, overview, and Linguistics Concepts	M#1a Introductions	M#1b Introduction Parody
2	September 1-7	Introduction, overview, and Linguistics Concepts	M#2a Meta-language & Meta-linguistics	M#2b "meta-" as Productive Prefix
3	September 8-14	Introduction, overview, and Linguistics Concepts	M#3a Speech Acts (Eulogy)	M#3b Metalinguistic Awareness
4	September 15-21	Introduction, overview, and Linguistics Concepts	M#4a Defining Grammatical, Correct, & Hypercorrection	M#4b The Art of Imitation: 19th Century Eulogy
5	September 22-28	Noun Clauses + Canvas Studio Presentation	M#5a Adjective Order and Noun Phrase Rule	M#5b Collocations
6	September 29- October 5	Noun Clauses + Canvas Studio	M#6a SVO Clauses & NPs vs. PPs	M#6b Idioms

Week	Dates	Topics	Readings/Activities/ Assignments due Wednesday at midnight	Readings/Activities/ Assignments due Sunday at midnight
		Presentation		
7	October 6-12	Noun Clauses + Canvas Studio Presentation	M#7a Midterm Project: Assignment Overview and instructions (<i>no graded assessment due</i>)	M#7b Midterm Project: Assignment Overview and Instructions & Idioms, Collocations, and Cliches, Hypercorrection (<i>no graded assignment due</i>)
8	October 13-19	Noun Clauses + Canvas Studio Presentation	M#8a Midterm Project: Presentation Formats (Powerpoint, Prezi, or Padlet) (<i>no graded assessment due</i>)	M#8b Midterm Project: Panopto Recording & Editing
9	October 20-26	Verb Phrases	M#9a Verb Phrases (Verb Phrase Rule)	M#9b Subject-Verb Agreement & Sociolects
10	October 27- November 2	Verb Phrases	M#10a Verb Phrases (Historical Present)	M#10b Newspaper Headlines (Historical Present)
11	November 3-9	Verb Phrases	M#11a Get/Got/Gottem (speech vs writing)	M#11b Phrasal Verbs
12	November 10-16	Verb Phrases	M#12a Vanishing Verb Forms: Exhibit A "The Past Perfect"	M#12b Subjunctive Mood "If I were you" (<i>no graded assessment</i>)
13	November 17-23	Final Writing Project and Citation Styles: Final Project Part 1 of 4	M#13a Writing Skills Reflections	M#13b Media on Chat GPT
14	November 24-30	Final Writing Project and Citation Styles: Final Project Part 2 of 4	M#14a 19th Century Analysis	M#14b 17th Century Obituaries
15	December 1-4	Final Writing Project and Citation Styles: Final Project Part 3 of 4	M#15a Linguistic Analysis	M#15b Report Format & Structure Constructing Final Project (<i>ungraded</i>)

Week	Dates	Topics	Readings/Activities/ Assignments due Wednesday at midnight	Readings/Activities/ Assignments due Sunday at midnight
16	December 8-13	Final Writing Project and Citation Styles: Final Project Part 4 of 4	M#16 Editing and Submitting due Wednesday, December 10th at midnight	

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

- **Quizzes:** designed to measure knowledge of presented course material
- **Assignments:** written online assignments in the form of discussion board posts, short essays, infographics, and video responses
- **Canvas Studio Project:** spoken word digital audio file in essay form (may include spoken text, interviews, historical recordings, music, environmental or ambient sounds, and sound effects)
- **Academic Research Paper:** the writer of the academic paper aims to persuade readers of an idea or solution to a problem based on empirical evidence (not a social commentary, a personal opinion or a "blog" post)

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total
Quizzes	10 assignments at 20 points each	200
Assignments	10 assignments at 40 points each	400
Audio File Project (Midterm	200	200
Final Project	200	200
Total		1000

Grade Determination:

A = 1000 – 900 pts; i.e. 90% or better
 B = 800 – 899 pts; i.e. 80 – 89 %
 C = 700 – 799 pts; i.e. 70 – 79 %
 D = 600 – 699 pts; i.e. 60 – 69 %
 F = 599 pts or below; i.e. less than 60%

Need tutoring services or just some help with a particular assignment? For tutoring that empowers students to achieve success, schedule an appointment with the Learning Commons today at <https://www.untDallas.edu/learning/schedule-appointment/>.

Course-Specific Policies

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Please refer to Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at <https://untsystem.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1347&public=true>.

Assignment Policy:

All assignments must be submitted by the due date. If you know that you need more time on a specific assignment, you must send me an email before midnight on the due date. If you submit an assignment late without contacting me ahead of time to ask for an extension, you will lose 10% off the grade of the assignment.

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at <https://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol/>).

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Disabilities Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodation at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delays in implementation. Note that a student must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDisability@untDallas.edu on the first floor of the Student Center.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring that online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive

technology being used. The Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is provided at <https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility>.

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the UNT Dallas Academic Integrity Policy in the appropriate Catalog at <http://dallascatalog.unt.edu>.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Applied English Program's AI Policy

The UNT-Dallas Applied English program acknowledges the evolving capabilities of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies and their various effects on student writing and content creation. The program and the Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Rhetoric is focused on implementing AI-Aware strategies and fostering an environment that emphasizes the ethical and strategic use of AI. Instructors are encouraged to provide clear information, strategies, and policies on AI use in each course and assignment, and students are expected to use AI in an ethical manner. The Applied English program will work at creating an environment of instructor-student-technology collaboration as we move forward in a society where students must learn how to critically harness the capabilities of new technologies.

Classroom etiquette:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate (UNT Policy 7.001 found at <https://untsystem.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1278&public=true>).

Classroom Disruption:

Students are expected to always engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching

and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absence for that class period and any other classes the student misses because of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences, and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (**UNTD Policy 7.001 found at <https://untsystem.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1278&public=true>**) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

Course Evaluations:

Student evaluations of teaching effectiveness are a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester via your campus email, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I (as the instructor) will not have access to the results of the evaluations until after final grades have been posted. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking

UNT Dallas is committed to creating a safe learning environment for all members of our community, free from gender and sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, in accordance with Title IX, Texas laws and University Policies. Please note that all employees are mandated reporters and must report all instances of sexual misconduct, dating violence, sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has experienced any form of sex or gender-based discrimination or violence and wish to speak to the Title IX Coordinator, you can email them at titleix@untDallas.edu or file a report [here](#).

Pregnancy, Pregnancy Related Conditions and Parenting Modifications Under Title IX

UNT Dallas is committed to compliance with Title IX, and to supporting the academic success of pregnant and parenting students and students with pregnancy related conditions. If you are a pregnant, have pregnant related conditions or a parenting student (child under one-year needs

documented medical care) who wishes to request reasonable related modifications from the University under Title IX, please email the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@untDallas.edu. The Title IX Coordinator will work with your professors and academic unit to provide reasonable modifications needed to be supportive of your education while pregnant or as a parent under Title IX.

Bad Weather Policy:

Campus facilities will close, and operations will be suspended when adverse weather and/or safety hazards exist on the UNTD campus or if travel to the campus is deemed dangerous as the result of ice, sleet or snow. In the event of a campus closure, the Marketing and Communication Department will report closure information to all appropriate major media by 7 a.m. That department will also update the UNTD website, Facebook and Twitter with closing information as soon as it is possible. For more information, please refer to <http://www.untDallas.edu/police/resources/notifications>.

Inclement Weather and Online Classes:

Online classes may or may not be affected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Technology Assistance: To successfully access the materials in Canvas, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus.

If you have trouble accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Distance Learning at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups.

For more information see:

- UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements:
<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721>
- Canvas Instructure Support & Unsupported Operating Systems:
<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10720>