

Department of English and Writing Studies

Writing 2210G/001 (Winter, 2019)
GrammarPhobia Demystified:
Contemporary Grammar for Writers

Monday, 12:30 - 2:20 and
Wednesday, 1:30 - 2:20, in UCC Rm. 65

A study of how the English language works in practice, the course surveys the grammatical structure of the language, using descriptive vocabulary and concepts derived from current linguistic theory, and explores the relationship of that grammatical structure to questions of style and rhetorical intention – to the practice of writing. Previous experience in linguistics is neither expected nor required.

Instructor: Brock Eayrs, UC 2430; beayrs@uwo.ca

Office Hours: Tuesdays between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., or by appointment

Required Texts:

Kolln, Martha and Loretta Gray, Rhetorical Grammar: Grammatical Choices, Rhetorical Effects
Eighth Edition. Pearson, 2017.

[A good, university-level dictionary (e.g. the Oxford Concise or equivalent) recommended.]

Schedule of Readings/Topics

Jan. 7/9: Introduction: General Conceptual and Historical Background

Jan. 14/16: Introduction (cont.)

Jan. 21/23: Words and Word Classes
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 1 and 12

FIRST IN-CLASS TEST WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23rd (5%)

Jan. 28/30: Words and Word Classes (cont.); Phrases
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 1 and 12; c. 5 pp. 78-90 and c. 6 pp. 91-99

Feb. 4/6: Phrases
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 5 pp. 78-90 and c. 6 pp. 91-99

SECOND IN-CLASS TEST WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 6th (10%)

Feb. 11/13: Phrases; Sentence Patterns and Verbs
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 2 and 3

(Reading Week February 18 – 22)

Feb. 25/27: Sentence Patterns and Verbs
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 2 and 3

FIRST ESSAY DUE WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 27TH (10%)

- March 4/8: **Sentence Patterns and Verbs**
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 2 and 3
- THIRD IN-CLASS TEST WEDNESDAY MARCH 6TH (10%)***
- March 11/13: **Coordination and Subordination**
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 4
- March 18/20: **Choosing Adverbials**
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 5
- FOURTH IN-CLASS TEST MONDAY MARCH 18th(10%)***
- March 25/27: **Choosing Adjectivals; Choosing Nominals**
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 6 and c. 7
- April 1/3: **Other Stylistic Variations; Cohesion**
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 8 and c. 9
- April 8: **Review/Conclusions**
- SECOND ESSAY DUE Tuesday April 9TH (30%)***

***[FORMAL FINAL EXAMINATION (2 HOURS; 25%) DURING THE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION PERIOD;
DATE/TIME/ROOM T.B.A.]***

Tests, Essays, Grade Allocation

Your final mark in the course will be based on the following required work:

Four in-class tests (closed-book) on topics covered in lecture	35%
*First Essay, approx. 750 words, due Wednesday, February 27th	10%
*Second (Major) Essay, approx. 2000 to 2500 words, due Tuesday April 9th (last day of classes)	30%
A formal, written final examination (two hours, closed-book) on topics covered in lecture (date/time t.b.a.)	25%

*The two essays for this course will be based on a single researched topic, which you may choose from a set of topics to be distributed during the second week of class. You are as well free, in consultation with me and subject to my approval, to modify one of these topics or develop your own topic. Your first essay will be a preliminary one, developing an approach to, and thesis on, your topic, outlining the major essay, and proposing any necessary research. You should begin work on this first essay very early in the term. Your second (major) essay will be a fully-developed and self-contained elaboration of your thesis. Your essay's grammar, sentence structure, paragraphing, and overall coherence will be evaluated according to the generally-accepted norms of formal Standard (Written) English, together with the standards articulated in the Writing Studies document 'Writing Studies Grading Guide' (available through the Writing Studies homepage). This evaluation will include an assessment of such things as logical consistency, originality, intellectual acuity, and overall quality of exposition.

Course Policies

Attendance

Writing 2210F/G is a lecture-based course, rather than a 'workshop' one. **However**, you should note the following two points.

1. Your understanding of the material covered in lecture will be cumulative; that is, each week's lecture discussion builds on and assumes familiarity with the discussions and elucidations in previous weeks, and **the in-class tests and final exam are based on those discussions** together with your readings of relevant textbook sections.

2. You will require formal academic accommodation if you miss a scheduled in-class test (excluding Test #1). See further under **Due Dates/Test Dates** below.

Due Dates/Test Dates

The essays are due, and the four in-class tests will be written, on the dates set out in the course Schedule. Requests for **extensions of the first essay due date** will be considered on a case-by-case basis; any extension granted will be for a maximum of one week only, unless granted pursuant to a formal request for accommodation (see 'Medical Accommodation Policy' below). **The second (major) essay is due and must be submitted on the last day of classes: Tuesday, April 9th. That is a deadline**; any extension will require a formal request for academic accommodation, a recommendation of 'INC' or similar issued directly to me by your academic counsellor.

Permission to 'make-up' a missed in-class test, other than the first test (Test 1) scheduled for Wednesday January 23rd, will be granted *only* pursuant to a formal request for accommodation (see 'Medical Accommodation Policy' below). Further, students should be aware that **any** requests for **SPC** for the final examination, **INC** for the course, and so on **must** be directed in the first instance to the Dean's office of the student's home faculty. Individual instructors do **not** have the authority to make these kinds of formal arrangements.

Medical Accommodation Policy

For UWO Policy on Accommodation For Medical Illness, see:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf>

(downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading)

Students seeking academic accommodation **on medical or other grounds** for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments **worth 10% or more of their final grade** must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds cannot be granted by the instructor or the Program in Writing, Rhetoric, and Professional Communication, and the Program requires students in these circumstances to follow the same procedure when seeking academic accommodation on non-medical (i.e. non-medical compassionate or other) grounds.

Students seeking academic accommodation **on medical grounds** for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments **worth less than 10% of their final grade** must also apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Where in these circumstances the accommodation is being sought on **non-medical grounds**, students should consult in the first instance with their instructor, who may elect to make a decision on the request directly, or refer the student to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive medical documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for accommodation on medical grounds, or for other reasons (e.g. to explain an absence from class which may result in a grade penalty under an 'Attendance' policy in the course). **All** medical documentation **must** be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's home Faculty.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western:

<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Scholastic Offences

"Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>."

"Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence."

"All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be

included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Prerequisites

The University Senate requires the following statement to appear on course outlines:

“Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed.

You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.” *The prerequisite for registration in this course is a) a final grade of 65 or more in one of Writing 2101, 2121, 2111, or 2131, or b) a final grade of 70 or more in one of Writing 1000F/G, Writing 1030F/G, or Writing 1031F/G or c) Special Permission of the department.*