

Department of English and Writing Studies

**Writing 2210G/001 (Winter, 2023)
GrammarPhobia Demystified:
Contemporary Grammar for Writers**

**Monday 12:30 > 2:30 p.m. and Wednesday 1:30 > 2:30 p.m.
PAB 117**

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

Email: beayrs@uwo.ca

Office: UC 2430

Consultation: by Western email (beayrs@uwo.ca) encouraged. I will typically respond within 24 to 36 hours. In-person consultations are available by appointment.

Required Texts:

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

The text is available through The Bookstore, or as an ebook direct from VitalSource
<https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/rhetorical-grammar-martha-j-kolln-v9780134095547>

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

Schedule of Readings/Topics/Important Dates

Week of Jan. 9: Introduction: General Conceptual and Historical Background

Week of Jan. 16: Introduction (cont.)

**Week of Jan. 23: Words and Word Classes
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 1 and 12**

FIRST TEST (5%): "Introduction" Material

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

**Week of Feb. 6: Phrases
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 5 pp. 78-90 and c. 6 pp. 91-99**

SECOND TEST (10%): Words and Word Classes

Week of Feb. 13: Phrases; Sentence Patterns and Verbs

Rhetorical Grammar, c. 2 and 3

(Reading Week February 18 – 26)

Week of Feb. 27: Sentence Patterns and Verbs
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 2 and 3

THIRD TEST (10%): Phrases

Week of Mar. 6: Sentence Patterns and Verbs
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 2 and 3

FIRST ESSAY (10%) DUE BY MONDAY MARCH 6th

Week of Mar. 13: Coordination and Subordination
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 4

FOURTH TEST (10%): Sentence Patterns and Verbs

Week of Mar. 20: Choosing Adverbials
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 5

Week of Mar. 27: Choosing Adjectivals; Choosing Nominals
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 6 and c. 7

Week of April 4:
(includes April 10) Other Stylistic Variations; Cohesion; Review
Rhetorical Grammar, c. 8 and c. 9

SECOND ESSAY DUE Monday April 10th (30%)

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

Tests, Essays, Grade Allocation, Prerequisites, Scholastic Offences

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

Four tests during term on topics covered in lecture/text	35%
*First Essay, approx. 750 words, due Monday March 7 th	10%
*Second (Major) Essay, approx. 2000 to 2500 words, due Monday April 10 th	30%
A formal, written final examination (2 hours) on topics covered in lecture/text (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 'Essay Topics' to be posted 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. I'll say more about the subject-area requirements for the essay in the 'Essay Topics'. 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 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 General Grading Rubric' (posted in 'Getting Started' on our Owl class site). This evaluation will include an assessment of such things as logical consistency, originality,

intellectual acuity, and overall quality of exposition.

Prerequisites

Unless you have either the prerequisites 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 this course is:

At least 65% in one of [Writing 2101F/G](#), [Writing 2125F/G](#) (or the former Writing 2121F/G), [Writing 2111F/G](#), [Writing 2130F/G](#) or [Writing 2131F/G](#); or at least 65% in one of [Writing 1000F/G](#), [Writing 1030F/G](#), or [Writing 1031F/G](#); or at least 65% in each of [MIT 1020E](#) (or both of [MIT 1021F/G](#) and [MIT 1022F/G](#)) and [MIT 1025F/G](#); or permission of the Department (consult the Undergraduate Program Director, Writing).

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/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.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 (see Scholastic Offence Policy as above).

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>.

Course and University Policies

Attendance

Writing 2210G is a lecture-based course, rather than a 'workshop' one. There are no *formal* 'attendance' requirements – or mandatory 'discussion' requirements – other than those associated with writing the four tests through the term, and the final exam and a general expectation that you will attend class regularly.

Due Dates/Test Dates

The essays are due on the dates set out in the course Schedule.

The second (major) essay is due and must be submitted on or before Monday April 10th (last day of classes).

That is a course – and university -- 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.

The four tests will be written during term during either the Monday or Wednesday class period. I will announce the specific date well in advance.

The final exam will be written 'in person' during the official Final Exam period in April, at a date/time to be announced.

You 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. I do **not** have the authority to make these kinds of formal arrangements.

Academic Consideration

General Note: I am not permitted to request, receive, or review documentation – including but not limited to medical documentation – directly from you, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical

grounds, or for other reasons. All such documentation must be submitted directly to the Academic Counselling Office of your Faculty of Registration.

Assessments worth less than 10% of the overall course grade:

If you miss Test 1 (5%) you may consult directly with me – as soon as possible – to arrange a date/time to write a make-up test.

Assessments worth 10% or more of the overall course grade:

For work totaling 10% or more of the final course grade – in practice, any assignment in this course other than Test 1 – you must provide valid medical or supporting documentation directly to the Academic Counselling Office of your Faculty of Registration as soon as possible.

If you receive a recommendation for academic consideration from your Dean's office, you and I will then arrange a make-up date/time for a missed Test, or an extension for an essay.

For further information, please consult the University's medical illness policy at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

The Student Medical Certificate is available at https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Absences from Final Examinations

If you miss the Final Exam, please contact the Academic Counselling office of your Faculty of Registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write a Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write a Special Exam if you are in a "Multiple Exam Situation" (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

Again: please remember 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. I do not have the authority to make these kinds of formal arrangements.

Accommodation and Accessibility

Religious Accommodation

When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request accommodation for their absence in writing at least two weeks prior to the holiday to the course instructor and/or the Academic Counselling office of their Faculty of Registration. Please consult University's list of recognized religious holidays (updated annually) at <https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>.

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Accessible Education, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf.

Support Services

Academic Counselling

Your Home Faculty's Academic Counselling or Academic Advising Office will support or refer whenever you have an issue that is affecting your studies, including information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters. Do not hesitate

to reach out to them if you are struggling and unsure where to go for help. Contact info for all Faculties is here: https://registrar.uwo.ca/faculty_academic_counselling.html

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness

<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. Immediate help in the event of a crisis can be had by phoning 519.661.3030 (during class hours) or 519.433.2023 after class hours and on weekends.

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Academic Support and Engagement <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Intellectual Property and Copyright Statement

All instructor-written materials (e.g. PowerPoints, lecture notes, oral lectures) for this course are created solely for students' personal use within the course, and remain the instructor's intellectual property. Further reproduction, fixation, distribution, transmission, dissemination, communication, or any other uses, without securing the consent of the copyright owner (the course instructor) may be an infringement of copyright. You may not distribute, email, or otherwise communicate these materials to any other person. These limitations extend to recording, photographing, or sharing lectures (online or in-person) and lecture material without permission. Posting the instructor's content from this course to online course sharing sites like OneClass or Course Hero without permission is both an infringement of intellectual property law and a violation of academic integrity guidelines. The instructor will pass these cases on to the Western University Ombudsperson or their Department Chair as appropriate.