



**English 3303 The Structure and History of the English Language
Spring 2017**

Dr. Sarah Roche

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Office: Medina Valley ISD Higher Learning Center Room 100C

Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 10:00 – 3:00 and by appointment

Course Description

In English 3303 you will read and write about the English language, including topics such as American dialects, descriptive and prescriptive approaches to English grammar, the history of English, English spelling, stylistics, language attitudes, and language education. This course will be fascinating for all students, and it is required for students seeking secondary teacher certification.

Online Course Policy

You have enrolled in an online course. Please pay special attention to the following university policies about web courses.

- Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. This means you must have the computer and connectivity necessary to stream and view videos, create and post videos, and submit assignments. Rio Grande College computer labs are available as back up.
- Students must submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information.
- Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, such as online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.
- The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook.

English Program Student Learning Outcomes

The graduating student in English will demonstrate that he/she can:

- construct essays that demonstrate clear topic/thesis, development, organization, and appropriate language
- select, evaluate, and synthesize primary and secondary sources and correctly document those sources
- demonstrate knowledge of a variety of literature, of elements of literature, and of literary genres necessary for success in teaching or in graduate school.

Student Learning Outcome	Assessment
At the end of this course, ENGL 3303, students will be able to	
understand language acquisition and development	Discussion Board; tests
recognize the impact of cultural, economic, political, and social environments upon language	Discussion Board; short paper; test
recall important people and events that shaped the development of English	Tests
respect and understand diversity in language use, patterns, and dialects	Discussion Board; short paper; tests
understand the evolution of the English language and the historical influences on its various forms	tests
explain aspects of English morphology and syntax using structure trees	Discussion Board; tests
demonstrate an improved understanding of and ability with the conventions of spelling and grammar by tracing some practices to earlier forms of the language	Discussion Board; tests

Required Textbook

How English Works: A Linguistic Introduction, 3rd Edition. Anne Curzan and Michael Patrick Adams. 2012 Pearson ISBN13: 9780205032280

Grade Determination

Assignment	Date Due	Points
Discussion Board (5)	Thursdays (see syllabus)	50 each, 250 for all 5
Homework Exercises (5)	Thursdays (see syllabus)	50 each, 250 for all 5
Short Paper	TBA	100
Tests (4)	Thursdays	100 each, 400 for all 4
Total points possible		1000

A: 90 – 100

B: 80 – 89

C: 70 – 79

D: 60 – 69

F: 0 - 59

Assignments

All assignments are due in Blackboard by 11:59 p.m. on the day they are due.

Discussions

Original discussions are due Thursdays and responses to two students are due Saturdays. For each discussion you will respond to a prompt in a way that is interesting and thought-provoking for our class. Your discussion will succeed if it promotes an engaged conversation.

Tips:

- Know how to post discussions; follow the Week 1 prompt carefully
- Write carefully and save each discussion in a folder from which you will copy and paste each week's discussion posting.
- Cultivate our community of learners by responding carefully and genuinely; responses to each other are just as important as original postings, so revise, edit, and proofread them too.
- Nurture your ethos; revise by developing smart ideas then edit and proofread your short texts.
- Be succinct; we are all busy and don't have time to read long, unrevised, unedited wordy ramblings. Deliver your ideas in sharp, precise prose. Each discussion posting should be about 200 to 300 words—very short, no room for excess wordiness.

Time commitment: It should take you a few hours (developed over a few days) to write your discussion. Then you should spend at least 30 minutes to one hour revising and editing.

Homework Exercises

Please find homework assignments under Assignments in Blackboard.

Paper

Short two-page paper. Topic to be announced.

Tests

You will take four online tests that you will find under Assignments.

Course Policies

Textbook

In order to succeed in this course, you must read and use the textbook *How English Works*.

Late Papers/Assignments

To pass the class you must successfully complete and turn in to me each assignment by the due date. If you fail to turn in any assignments, even one, you may earn an F for the course.

Grade Changes

Please discuss your grades with me during the semester. Once the semester is over and I have entered grades into the system, however, I will not consider grade changes unless I, myself, miscalculated. Please do not ask for extra credit or chances to revise after the fifteenth week of class because I will refuse such appeals. You should know that you have the right to appeal your grade. According to the Sul Ross Rio Grande College Student Handbook, "if you disagree with a grade you received, you should discuss it with the instructor of the course. If you are not satisfied with results of that discussion, make an appointment to discuss it with the Chair of the Department [in this case, Dr. Roche]" (17).

ADA Statement

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Kathy Biddick in Student Services, Room C-102, Uvalde campus. The mailing address is 2623 Garner Field Road, Rio Grande College-Sul Ross State University, Uvalde, Texas 78801. Telephone: 830-279-3003. E-mail: kbiddick@sulross.edu .

Schedule

Note: On Sunday or Monday of each week, I will post an announcement detailing the week's reading, videos, and assignments. Please check BB every Monday. Consider using the Blackboard app.

Week 1: January 17 – 20 A Language like English

Read Ch 1, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 1 A Language like English" under Handouts and Links

Assignment: Discussion Board

Week 2: January 23 - 27 Language and Authority

Read Ch 2, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 2 Language and Authority" under Handouts and Links

Assignment: Discussion Board

Week 3: January 30 - February 3 English Phonology

Read Ch 3, watch 3 videos in the folder "Ch 3 English Phonology" under Handouts and Links

Assignment: homework exercises

Week 4: February 6 - 10 English Phonology. **Test One**

Read Ch 3, study chapters 1, 2, and 3 for first test.

Assignment: study for first test

Week 5: February 13 - 17 English Morphology

Read Ch 4, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 4 English Morphology" under Handouts and Links

Assignment: homework exercises

Week 6: February 20 - 24 English Morphology

Read Ch 4, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 4 English Morphology" under Handouts and Links

Assignment: homework exercises

Week 7: February 27 – March 3 English Syntax: The Grammar of Words

Read Ch 5, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 5 and 6 English Syntax: Words, Phrases, Clauses, and Sentences" under Handouts and Links

Assignment: homework exercises

Week 8: March 6 - 10 English Syntax: Finish "The Grammar of Words" and start "Phrases, Clauses, and Sentences" **Test Two**

Study chapters 4 and 5 for second test.

Assignment: study for second test

Week 9: March 20 - 24 English Syntax: Phrases, Clauses, and Sentences

Read Ch 6, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 5 and 6 English Syntax: Words, Phrases, Clauses, and Sentences" under Handouts and Links

Assignment: Discussion Board or Exercises (TBA)

Week 10: March 27 - 31 Language Acquisition

Read Ch 10, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 10 Language Acquisition"

Assignment: **Paper due**

Week 11: April 3 - 7 Language Variation. **Test Three**

Read Ch 11, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 11 Language Variation," and study chapters 6, 10, and 11 for third test.

Assignment: study for third test

Week 12: April 10 - 13 American Dialects

Read Ch 12, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 12 American Dialects"

Assignment: Discussion Board

Week 13: April 17 - 21 History of English: Old to Early Modern English

Read Ch 13, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 13 & 14 History of English"

Assignment: homework exercises

Week 14: April 24 - 28 History of English: Modern and Future English

Read Ch 14, read or watch materials in the folder "Ch 13 & 14 History of English"

Assignment: Discussion Board

Week 15: May 1 – 5 Review and **Final Exam**