Course Description

A systematic study of formal English grammar and effective expression with attention to recognizing and employing appropriately the various levels of English usage, thinking logically, speaking and writing effectively, editing, evaluating content and intent of both spoken and written English, punctuating correctly, and understanding the history and development of the English language. Lecture 3 hours per week

General Course Purpose

This course examines formal English grammar through descriptive and prescriptive approaches, emphasizing diagramming and parsing as means of analyses. It is intended to provide review for editors, writers, and teachers of English and modern languages and also to prepare students for undergraduate and graduate work.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites

English language skills equivalent to placement into ENG 9, ENG 111, or ENG 139.

Course Objectives

GOAL ONE: The history and development of English
ENG 139 will expose students to the international nature of the history of English and the international implications for the present and future of English. By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- identify within English words and phrases the influence of other languages;
- select the appropriate level of English for different social and political circumstances.

GOAL TWO: The structure of English
ENG139 will help students to improve their knowledge of the formal structure of English. By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- recognize and employ appropriately parts of speech, phrases, and clauses;
- punctuate correctly;
- recognize and employ appropriately all sentence types;
- use sentence diagramming and parsing as mechanisms for revealing sentence structure.

GOAL THREE: Editing
ENG 139 students will examine and improve the form and content of written material. By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- efficiently and correctly edit their own and others’ writing;
- evaluate the content and intent of both written and spoken language.

Major Topics to be Included

- History of English
- Definitions, classifications, and functions of parts of speech, and parts of the sentence, phrases, and clauses
- Types of sentences: simple, compound, compound-complex
- Levels of usage
- Editing
- Punctuation