

Sonoma State University Preparation Program  
Course Outline  
Fall 2020

**Course Title: Advanced Grammar Awareness for Effective Communication**

**Instructional Hours:** This course meets for two hours twice a week for 16 weeks, totaling 64 hours in the semester.

**Course Description:**

Students will learn to recognize errors and use correct grammar in academic writing and speaking. They will become aware of common grammatical errors and learn how to self-correct by editing or rephrasing.

**Course Objectives:** In this course students will learn:

- formal grammar for writing in academic settings, such as research papers, academic assignments, essays, short-answer tests, resumes, and emails.
- formal grammar for speaking in academic settings, such as presentations, classroom discussions, academic meetings, and interviews.
- strategies to find and correct errors using checklists.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Writing Correction
  - recognize mistakes in verb tenses, articles, sentence structure, word forms, and mechanics.
  - identify and self-correct grammatical errors in their own writing.
- Speaking Correction
  - retrospectively self-correct occasional mistakes or errors in speech.
  - correct slips and errors if they have led to misunderstandings.
  - make a note of habitual errors and occasional mistakes and consciously monitor speech for them.

**Writing Assignments:**

Diagnostic Test

Editing their own formal assignments from other classes

Editing examples of writing necessary for academic life such as email, online discussions, resumes, cover letters

Structured editing practice (Pull from Supplemental Texts, *Focus on Grammar*, for example)

Group error analysis and editing

**Speaking Assignments:**

Grammar review checklists and practice assignments for self-correction while speaking

Role Plays

Interviews, Video interviews, recorded presentations to correct grammar errors

Videos for identifying common mistakes

Presentations, including oral presentation on error analysis and grammar points

**Grading:**

Students will be graded with the following criteria:

Tests, quizzes, presentations and demonstrations = 35-50%

Assignments= 35-50%

Attendance and Participation = 0-30%

100-98% = A+; 97-93%=A; 92-90%=A-

89-88%=B+; 87-83%=B; 82-80%=B-

79-78%=C+; 77-73%=C; 70-72%=C-

69-68%=D+; 67-63%=D; 62-60%=D-

59% and below = F