ENGL 7535/8535 ESL Grammar

Dr. Emily A. Thrush Patterson 401D

Course Goals

Engl 7535, ESL Grammar, will help familiarize students with the basic structure of English, particularly those areas that cause most difficulty for non-native speakers. The course has several goals. One, TESL students become familiar with grammatical terminology and practice identifying and labeling sentence structures. Two, they develop an understanding of how English syntax works to convey meaning. Third, they familiarize themselves with various techniques of teaching grammar to those whose first language is not English. Beyond these goals, there are other ancillary ones, including an understanding of why errors occur in second language writing and speaking and some specific interference problems between English and other languages.

Required Texts:

Byrd and Benson. Applied English Grammar. 1st ed. ISBN-10: 0030335280

Aims and Organization: The primary objective of this course is to give participants an understanding of grammatical features of the English language which are most troublesome to non-native speakers. Those topics include the article system, the auxiliary system, the structure of idiomatic expressions and inflectional endings. Participants discover how to explain to the ESL learner those elements of the language which are routine and intuitive for native speakers of English. Participants also compare types of ESL grammar texts with respect to their linguistic bases. Web classes consist of exercises meant to test understanding of the readings, discussions on the discussion board, links to internet sites providing helpful information.

Assignments and Written Work: The participants complete assignments and quizzes. Through short written assignments, they also demonstrate the ability to locate and label errors in ESL student writing.

Each module consists of readings, exercises to be submitted to the Dropbox, a quiz and discussion questions to be answered on the discussion board. Complete each module by the date indicated on the Modules page.

Grading:

Final Exam 25% Discussion Board 25% Quizzes 50%

Any student who may need class or test accommodations based on the impact of a disability is encouraged to communicate with me privately to discuss your specific needs. Students with disabilities should also contact Student Disability Services (SDS) at 110 Wilder Tower, 678-2880. SDS coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.