

Introduction to English Grammar

Summer 2009

(V61.0056001)

Instructor: Prof. Chris Collins
Dates: May 18 – June 26, 2009
Days: MTWR 11:00 – 12:35
School: CAS
Points: 4
Prerequisites: None

Text: A Student's Introduction to English Grammar
by Rodney Huddleston and Geoffrey K. Pullum
(ISBN: 0 521 612888)

Course Description:

This course is an introductory overview of the grammar of English. No prior knowledge of linguistics is assumed. We will survey the major areas of English grammar, including the following: parts of speech (verb, noun, adjective, preposition, adverb), participles, auxiliary verbs, count and non-count nouns, definite and indefinite articles, subjects, objects, predicates, types of clauses (declarative, interrogative, exclamative, imperative), passive versus active verbs, negation, and relative clauses.

The course will be of interest to students of English literature, English grammar, linguistics, computer science, philosophy and psychology. The course will also be useful to people thinking of going into language teaching, and people interested in improving their writing through greater attention to English grammar.

Note: this is not an ESL (English as a Second Language) course. Students are expected to be native speakers of English, or to have a very high level of proficiency in English.