

Courses in English

Course Description

Department	13 General and Interdisciplinary Studies
Course title	Problems of English Grammar I
Hours per week (SWS)	2
Number of ECTS credits	2
Course objective	This course will provide insights into how languages, particularly English and German, work. At the same time, it should provide practical benefits for learning English and other foreign languages.
Prerequisites	
Recommended reading	The course book, Block, Russell, Problems of English Grammar (Vers. 6.1) will be made available on my web site at the beginning of the semester. It includes a bibliography of "sources and inspirations" for students who wish to extend and deepen their understanding of the material covered in the lecture and the course book.
Teaching methods	Until classroom meetings can be re-established, weekly lectures including Review Questions will be posted
Assessment methods	
Language of instruction	English
Name of lecturer	Prof. Dr. Russell Block
Email	block@hm.edu
Link	
Course content	<p>English grammar and the grammars of the familiar European languages (particularly German) are fundamentally very similar. But, there are small differences that cause us problems. In this course, we will apply the methods of modern linguistics to explain the differences (primarily between English and German). The analysis will go far beyond the usual English "school grammar." We will draw on the resources provided by the last half-century of language study to make sense out of English grammar. In Problems of English Grammar I, we will focus particularly on the terrible English tense and aspect system: I go, I am going, I have gone, I have been going, etc.</p> <p>Problems of English Grammar II is devoted to phrase and clause structure, e.g., the difference between that and which in relative clauses and the use of the complementizers that, for-to, -ing as in: I forgot that I mailed the letter, I forgot to mail the letter, I forgot mailing the letter.</p>
Remarks	Native speakers of English who want to find out how their language works are welcome!