

## English Linguistics: Syntax and Semantics (A005759)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 5.0** **Study time 150 h**

**Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027**

A (semester 2)      English      Gent

**Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027**

Buelens, Liisa	LW06	staff member
Taverniers, Miriam	LW06	lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027**

	<b>crdts</b>	<b>offering</b>
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Greek)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Italian)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Latin)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Spanish)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Swedish)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Italian)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Spanish)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)</a>	5	A

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

English, linguistics, syntax, semantics, grammar

**Position of the course**

This advanced course helps students acquire insight into the syntax of the English language and teaches them how to make a grammatical analysis of different construction types of English. This also includes knowledge of word classes and functional categories.

Position of the course in terms of language proficiency: In the second year of the bachelor programme in English, students are expected to develop from a CEFR B2 level into a first-stage C1 level, i.e. C1.1 (first-stage "Expert"/"Effective" proficiency level).

**Contents**

Analysis of the syntactic and semantic structure of various construction types in English (including the simple and complex sentence, and several types of phrases).

### **Initial competences**

To have completed the course English Language Proficiency I or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

To master English at a consolidated B2 level (i.e. B2.2 or B2+, "Functional independent" proficiency).

### **Final competences**

- 1 To have a systematic knowledge of the terminology and the most important insights and findings of modern English descriptive grammar.
- 2 To be able to describe and analyse specific grammatical constructions in English within the terminological and theoretical framework introduced in the course.
- 3 To understand the different functions (stylistic, communicative, etc.) of specific construction types in English.
- 4 To be able to make a more finegrained analysis of specific grammatical problems of English according to different grammatical models.
- 5 To be able to think critically about different approaches to specific grammatical problems of English.
- 6 To make use of digital methods to work collaboratively or individually on project-based research processes.

### **Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

### **Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

### **Teaching methods**

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

Weekly lecture, coaching clinics on a regular basis and interactive exercises online.

All classes take place on campus.

Lecture-based sessions are recorded and made available to specific target groups (upon request).

### **Study material**

Type: Handbook

Name: Biber, Douglas, Geoffrey Leech & Susan Conrad. Longman Student Grammar of Spoken and Written English.

London: Longman.

Indicative price: € 47

Optional: no

Available in the Library : Yes

Type: Syllabus

Name: Miriam Taverniers. 2018. English Linguistics II: Syntax and Semantics. Leuven/Gent: Acco.

Indicative price: € 25

Optional: no

Type: Other

Name: Handouts, overviews, exercises

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

### **References**

#### **Course content-related study coaching**

Individually (on-line) and in groups (coaching clinics).

#### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Written assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Written assessment

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment****Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

not applicable

**Extra information on the examination methods**

Written exam. Emphasis on theoretical insight and analysis of structures/sentences.

**Calculation of the examination mark**

100% periodical: written exam

**Facilities for Working Students**

Facilities:

- 1 Student attendance during educational activities is required
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Feedback can be given during an appointment during office hours

For more information contact the monitoring service of the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy: <https://www.ugent.be/lw/nl/student/studiestudentenbegeleiding/trajectbegeleiding.htm>