Presentation pattern   October to June

Programme information

English grammar in context forms part of the OU's English Language and Literature or Modern Language Studies degrees.

Module description

This Level 3 applied linguistics module is for students who are interested in understanding and analysing how English 'works' in a wide range of contexts, including the media, fiction, academic writing and everyday conversation. The majority of students taking this module will have previously studied other modules in Applied Linguistics and Arts (e.g. U211, U214, E301, EA300, A210, A215) and/or (in smaller numbers) Modern Foreign Languages modules (e.g. L310, L313, L314).

E303 takes a functional approach to grammar and includes the software-based analysis of large databases of texts ('corpora') to help students engage with real-world data and problems. Work on this module is both intellectually stimulating and practical.

Person specification

The person specification for this module should be read in conjunction with the generic person specification for an associate lecturer at The Open University.

- a first and preferably higher degree in a relevant discipline (e.g. applied linguistics, English Language or linguistics)

- knowledge of the social and applied dimensions of grammar, language and linguistics

- experience of, and/or commitment to, teaching about English grammar including from a Hallidayan functional perspective

- knowledge of how corpora and concordancers are used to investigate grammar and an ability to help students develop skills to do this independently (concordancing software and corpora are supplied together with detailed guidance for their use)

- experience of, and/or commitment to, developing students' skills in the grammatical analysis and interpretation of English in use

- ability to develop students' academic literacy in this field of study at Level 3

- experience of, or willingness to be trained in, the use of VLE tools (synchronous and asynchronous) including the use of tutorial group forums and a commitment to their application

It would be an advantage to have:

- previous experience of teaching adults at this level, particularly in distance learning situations

The module makes use of computers for students to practise grammatical analysis via interactive, CD-ROM based activities as well as to carry out corpus searches.

Module related details - a full explanation can be found on the website

Credits awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module:	60
Number of assignments submitted by the student:	6
Method of submission for assignments:	3

Level of ICT requirements: 2
Number of students likely to be in a standard group: 20
Salary band: 7
Estimated number of hours per teaching week: 6

There may be opportunities for ALs to undertake associated assessment work for which there will be additional payment and about which you will be contacted separately if applicable.