

## *Course report*

*ENG114 English grammar I*

*Spring 2019*

*Head-teacher: Jerzy Nykiel*

*Grammar HelpDesk instructor: Yulia Hathaway (student assistant)*

*Video feedback: Anders Samland, Haakon Simpson, Ingeborg Vansgnes (student assistants), Jerzy Nykiel (teacher), Kaisa Pietikäinen (teacher)*

ENG114 is a 10 credit course composed of 12 lectures and 11 seminar sessions. The lectures and seminars were taught by Jerzy Nykiel. There was one seminar group. There were also 12 grammar HelpDesk sessions led by one MA student assistant: Yulia Hathaway. The course aims to give the students insight into the basic as well as more advanced structures of the English language, especially in terms of syntax, semantics and morphology. It also equips the students with precise linguistic vocabulary as a working tool.

The number of registered students was 178. The lectures were attended regularly by ca. 40-50 students and the seminars had similar attendance. These numbers suggest that a significant number of students were never or rarely present in class. Seminar tasks were posted to Mitt UiB ca. 5-6 days before each seminar session. Some of the seminar tasks were online tasks. PowerPoint materials were uploaded on Mitt UiB before class. A significant number of students attended the Grammar HelpDesk sessions where the students obtained instant feedback on their work on the seminar tasks and other grammar tasks.

There were 10 non-obligatory papers in the course of the semester. The following numbers of students submitted the non-obligatory assignments: paper 1: 52 students; paper 2: 48 students; paper 3: 34 students, paper 4: 17 students; paper 5: 24 students; paper 6: 26 students; paper 7: 23 students; paper 8: 23 students; paper 9: 21 students; paper 10: 13 students. All the students received detailed video feedback on their performance on the paper in that every student was sent a link to a personalized video file in which the teacher or one of the MA student assistants talks the student through the paper. The video feedback was an aspect of ENG114 appreciated by the students, as can be seen in the student evaluation. Many students say that they were able to learn grammar more effectively through the video feedback on their submissions.

Student evaluation was carried out in the form of an online questionnaire. 38 students sent in their replies. They were very satisfied with the course (the results of the evaluation are attached in a different file).

## **Exam**

127 students took a 4-hour school exam. The results were as follows:

A - 4 = 3%  
B - 16 = 13%  
C - 22 = 17%  
D - 16 = 13%  
E - 19 = 15%  
F - 50 = 39%

### **Teacher's evaluation**

The course proceeded as planned. The students were offered various opportunities to put their grammar analysis skills to practice (seminars, HelpDesk sessions, non-obligatory papers) and a number of students availed themselves of these opportunities on a weekly basis. This is later reflected in the fact that 33 per cent of students obtained very good to good grades on the exam (A - B - C). There were a few students very interested in the content of the course throughout the semester. I am generally satisfied with the course.