

Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

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APPROVAL FORM

Rev: 5/82

Proposal Title: American English Grammar
Phonology and Structure of American English

Sponsor(s): Dr. Edward L. Wolfe Dept.: English

Check one: Course Specialization Concentration Achievement Certificate

Course Title and Catalog Description Minor Change Major Program
(please name: deletion or credit/title/catalog change)

Certification Program Undergraduate Graduate Credit Hours

Step 1 (Department)

Approved 11/14/82
date

Not Approved

John C. Haber
Dept. CC Chairperson

Reviewed 12/14/82
date

Edward L. Wolfe
Chairperson, Dept.

Step 2 (Receipt)

SCC# 82-83-19

Proposal Received 1/24/83
date

Shirley A. O'Day
Chairperson, SCC

Step 3 (Division CC)

Reviewed 1/25/83
date

Approved

Not Approved

Comments:

Shirley A. O'Day
Chairperson, Div. Curr. Comm.

Step 4 (Academic Dean)

Comments:

Reviewed 2/7/83
date

Alan Donavan
Signature, Dean of Division

Step 5 (SCC)

Open Hearing Date: 3/1/83 Approved by Senate Curriculum Committee 3/1/83 (date)

Returned to sponsor(s) for the following reasons:

Step 6 (Faculty Senate)

Presented to Faculty Senate (date): 3/2/83

Approved
 Not Approved

Notification to Vice-President Academic Affairs (date): 3/7/83

Shirley A. O'Day
Signature: SCC Chairperson

Step 7 (Vice-President for Academic Affairs)

Course received _____ (date)

Course approved Yes No _____

If no, reasons are as follows:

Student credit hours 3

Faculty load hours 3

Equalized credit hours 3

Official copy and approval sheet filed _____ (date)

Signature _____
(Vice-President for Academic Affairs)

Registrar

Approved course description received _____ (date)

Hegis Taxonomy and Course Number assigned _____

Signature _____ (Registrar) _____ (Date)

Notification forwarded: Senate Curriculum Committee Chairperson, Department Chairperson(s),
Academic Dean(s), Registrar, Sponsor(s)

Minor Curricular Change
Revision in Course Title and in Catalog Description

Course Title: Phonology and Structure of American English

Regis and Course Nos. 1505.301

Department: English

Sponsor: Dr. Edward L. Wolfe and Dr. Rose Glassberg

I. Details

A. Change in Course Title:

From: Phonology and Structure of American English

To: American English Grammar

B. Change in Catalog Description:

From: 1505.301

Phonology and Structure of American English

This course emphasizes both traditional grammar and the findings of current linguistics. It seeks to give the student a practical understanding of the way the English language works. Procedures include lecture, class discussion, and the working out of grammatical problems.

To: 1505.301

American English Grammar

This course emphasizes traditional grammar and the findings of current linguistics. It seeks to give the student a practical understanding of the phonology, morphology, and structure of contemporary American English grammar. Procedures include lecture, class discussion, and the working out of grammatical problems.

II. Rational

The present title, Phonology and Structure of American English, was adopted in 1975 in response to new requirements for the certification of teachers of English as a second language. The course was previously called Modern Grammar, but because the new certification standards required work in "phonology and structure of American English," it seemed, at the time, appropriate not merely to teach phonology and structure, but to include these words in the course title.

The course title has proved to be an unfortunate barrier to communication. Many students and faculty do not realize that the course called Phonology and Structure of American English is a course in grammar or that grammar is that part of the study of language which deals with the sounds (phonology), forms (morphology), and structures (syntax) of words and their customary arrangements in phrases and sentences.

In consequence, many of our recent graduates and presumably many of our present students do not realize that the English Department presently offers a course in

American English Grammar. Last year as part of the department's re-evaluation and self-assessment, it circulated a questionnaire to its graduates over the last five years, requesting a detailed evaluation of the English curriculum and faculty. Of the ninety-two questionnaires that were returned, fifty-two or 56.52% included specific suggestions for improving the English curriculum. Of the fifty-two responses suggesting curricular improvements, sixteen or 30.76% recommended that the department offer a course in grammar! Changing the title of our present course to American English Grammar should satisfy such recommendations for change, clarify what the department is now doing, and generally make the course content more obvious for all students and faculty.

III. Results of Consultation

Dr. Melvin Backman, Professor of English at C.W. Post College, Long Island University, was the consultant who was hired to evaluate the English Department last year. As a result of his evaluation, he recommended "instituting such courses as Grammar and Usage" The Curriculum Committee and the English Department as a whole concluded that a change in title would be the most efficacious response to Dr. Backman's recommendation. The requested changes in title and catalog description have been discussed and approved by Dr. Rose Glassberg, Dr. Thomas Gallia, Chairperson of Curriculum and Instruction: Secondary Education, and Dr. Janice F. Weaver, Dean of Professional Studies.