

**COURSE OUTLINE COVER PAGE**

Improving Syntax and Vocabulary:  
Writing for Teachers  
**Course Title**

EN 220  
**Department and Number**

**Course Description:** This course is designed to improve the writing skills of elementary teachers through the development of competencies in the correct use of syntax and vocabulary in written work directly related to the field of elementary education.

**Course Prepared By:** Education Division      **Campus Site:** National Campus

Course Type	Hours per Week	No. of Weeks	Total Hours	Divisor	Semester Credits
Lecture	<u>3</u> x	<u>16</u>	= <u>48</u> /	<u>16</u>	= <u>3</u>

**Purpose of Course:** Degree Requirement \_\_\_\_\_  
Degree Elective \_\_\_\_\_  
Certificate \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Remedial/Full Admission to Third Year

**Prerequisite Course(s):** EN 120b Expository Writing II; Probationary admission to Third-Year Teacher Education -- Elementary

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature, Chairperson, Curriculum Committee**      **Date Approved by Committee**

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**Signature, President, COM-FSM**      **Date Approved by President**

## I. LEARNING OUTCOMES

### Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate and use knowledge of the FSM elementary school curriculum standards.
2. Apply a variety of teaching approaches to meet learning needs of FSM elementary students.
3. Assess and evaluate learning of the elementary student at both the formative and summative levels.
4. Organize and manage an elementary classroom environment for learning.
5. Demonstrate and use background knowledge in the following areas: learning theories and principles, human development, language development, educational foundations, socio-cultural issues, and individual and group motivation.
6. Demonstrate professionalism.

### A. Course Learning Outcomes:

**General Outcome 1:** The student will be able to use parts of speech correctly in lesson plans, worksheets for elementary students, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays.

Learning Outcomes	Suggested Assessment Strategies
1a. The student will be able to use nouns and pronouns correctly in written work, including count-non-count nouns, regular and irregular plural nouns, pronoun agreement, pronoun antecedents, singular and plural possessive nouns and pronouns, articles, and <u>that/who/whom</u> .	1a. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns. A scoring rubric will be used.
1b. The student will be able to use verbs correctly in written work including correct use of verb tense, irregular verbs, modals, active and passive verb forms, contractions, helping verbs, and linking verbs.	1b. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns <b>and</b> verbs. A scoring rubric will be used.

Learning Outcomes	Suggested Assessment Strategies
1c. The student will be able to use prepositional phrases correctly in written work.	1c. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, <b>and</b> prepositional phrases. A scoring rubric will be used.
1d. The student will be able to use adjectives correctly in written work.	1d. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, <b>and</b> adjectives. A scoring rubric will be used.
1e. The student will be able to use adverbs correctly in written work.	1e. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, <b>and</b> adverbs. A scoring rubric will be used.
1f. The student will be able to use conjunctions correctly in written work.	1f. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, <b>and</b> conjunctions. A scoring rubric will be used.

**General Outcome 2:** The student will be able to write complete sentences correctly in lesson plans, worksheets for elementary students, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays.

Learning Outcomes	Suggested Assessment Strategies
2a. The student will be able to write sentences with subject-verb agreement.	2a. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, <b>and</b> subject-verb agreement. A scoring rubric will be used.
2b. The student will be able to identify and edit run-on sentences.	2b. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, subject-verb agreement, <b>and</b> avoidance of run-on sentences. A scoring rubric will be used.
2c. The student will be able to use complete sentences in written work.	2c. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, subject-verb agreement, avoidance of run-on sentences, <b>and</b> use of complete sentences. A scoring rubric will be used.

Learning Outcomes	Suggested Assessment Strategies
2d. The student will be able to use parallel construction in written work.	2d. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, subject-verb agreement, avoidance of run-on sentences, use of complete sentences, <b>and</b> parallel construction. A scoring rubric will be used.

**General Outcome 3:** The student will be able to apply capitalization and punctuation rules correctly in lesson plans, worksheets for elementary students, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays.

Learning Outcomes	Suggested Assessment Strategies
3a. The student will be able to apply capitalization rules correctly in written work.	3a. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, subject-verb agreement, avoidance of run-on sentences, use of complete sentences, parallel construction, <b>and</b> capitalization. A scoring rubric will be used.
3b. The student will be able to apply punctuation rules correctly in written work.	3b. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, subject-verb agreement, avoidance of run-on sentences, use of complete sentences, parallel construction, capitalization, <b>and</b> punctuation. A scoring rubric will be used.

**General Outcome 4:** The student will be able to use appropriate vocabulary and spell words correctly in lesson plans, worksheets for elementary students, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays.

Learning Outcomes	Suggested Assessment Strategies
<p>4a. The student will demonstrate understanding of the meaning and appropriate use of vocabulary commonly used in elementary curricula.</p>	<p>4a. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, subject-verb agreement, avoidance of run-on sentences, use of complete sentences, parallel construction, capitalization, punctuation, <b>and</b> appropriate vocabulary. A scoring rubric will be used.</p>
<p>4b. The student will be able to correctly spell words commonly used in elementary curricula including words commonly confused due to pronunciation errors, such as <u>ate</u> and <u>hate</u>, <u>lose</u> and <u>loose</u>, and <u>pound</u> and <u>bound</u>.</p>	<p>4b. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, subject-verb agreement, avoidance of run-on sentences, use of complete sentences, parallel construction, capitalization, punctuation, appropriate vocabulary, <b>and</b> spelling. A scoring rubric will be used.</p>

Learning Outcomes	Suggested Assessment Strategies
4c. The student will be able to use transition words correctly in written work.	4d. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, subject-verb agreement, avoidance of run-on sentences, use of complete sentences, parallel construction, capitalization, punctuation, appropriate vocabulary, spelling <b>and</b> transition words. A scoring rubric will be used.

**General Outcome 5:** The student will be able to use formal speech in lesson plans, worksheets for elementary students, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays.

Learning Outcomes	Suggested Assessment Strategies
5a. The student will be able to distinguish between formal and casual speech and use only formal speech in written work. For example, the student will use “going to” instead of “gonna,” “because” instead of “cause” or “cuz,” “through” instead of “thru,” etc.	5a. The student will submit written assignments that correspond to the outcome and/or written work developed for other courses such as lesson plans, worksheets, journal entries, reflection papers, answers to essay questions, and essays. Written work will be scored <u>only</u> on correct use of nouns and pronouns, verbs, prepositional phrases, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, subject-verb agreement, avoidance of run-on sentences, use of complete sentences, parallel construction, capitalization, punctuation, appropriate vocabulary, spelling, transition words, <b>and</b> formal speech. A scoring rubric will be used.

**General Outcome 6:** The student will be able to use reference helps including the dictionary and thesaurus (both in print and electronic forms) and the spell-check and grammar-check functions in word processing programs.

Learning Outcomes	Suggested Assessment Strategies
6a. The student will be able to use an electronic dictionary and a paper dictionary.	6a. The student will submit assignments that require use of an electronic dictionary and assignments that require the use of a paper dictionary.
6b. The student will be able to use an electronic thesaurus and a paper thesaurus.	6b. The student will submit assignments that require use of an electronic thesaurus and assignments that require use of a paper thesaurus.
6c. The student will be able to use the spell-check and grammar-check functions in a word processing program.	6c. The student will submit assignments that require use of the spell-check and grammar check functions in a word processing program.

## II. COURSE CONTENTS

- count and non-count nouns
- regular and irregular plural nouns
- pronoun agreement
- pronoun antecedents
- singular and plural possessive nouns and pronouns
- articles
- that, who, whom
- verb tense
- irregular verbs
- modals
- active and passive verb forms
- contractions
- helping verbs
- linking verbs
- prepositional phrases
- adjectives
- adverbs
- conjunctions
- subject-verb agreement
- run-on sentences
- sentence fragments
- parallel construction
- capitalization rules
- punctuation rules
- vocabulary used in elementary curricula
- spelling of words used in elementary curricula
- transition words
- formal and informal speech
- dictionary use, both in paper and electronic forms
- thesaurus use, both in paper and electronic forms
- spell-check and grammar check

**III. TEXTBOOKS:** John, L. and B. Johnson. *English Essentials*. Townsend Press, Inc., West Berlin, NJ, 2005 (or more recent edition). ISBN 1-59194-022-2



**IV. REFERENCE MATERIALS: (for instructor)** Azar, B. *Fundamentals of English Grammar, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.* Prentice Hall Regents, Upper Saddle River, NJ, 1992 or more recent edition. ISBN 0-13-338278-8

**V. REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:** Each student is required to provide an electronic storage device for course assignments. Also, each student is required to provide a standard English language dictionary and a standard English language thesaurus. Supplemental handouts to be provided by the instructor.

**VI. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS/EQUIPMENT AND COST FOR THE COLLEGE:** None

**VII. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:** Methods of instruction include lecture, group work, in-class exercises, required reading, and assignments.

**VIII. EVALUATION:** Each assignment and exam will be assigned a point value. Students will be given two chances to score at least 70% on each assignment and exam. (The highest possible score on a second attempt is 70%.) At the end of the course, the total number of points earned divided by the total points possible to determine the final grade. Opportunities for bonus points will be provided. The standard grades of A,B,C, D, and F will be applied.

**IX. CREDIT BY EXAMINATION:** None

**X. ATTENDANCE POLICY:** The standard COM-FSM Attendance Policy applies.

**XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY:** The COM-FSM Academic Honesty policy applies.