Written Communication: Crafting Varied and Impactful Sentences

Course Description

In this course, students review the fundamentals of English sentence grammar within a cohesive form/function framework and learn to manipulate sentence structure to improve information flow, increase variety, and hone focus.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Identify and control essential grammatical forms and functions, including:
  - Parts of speech
  - Phrase types
  - Clause types
- Identify constituency of syntactic structures
- Identify and control thematic roles in sentences
- Identify verb types and subcategorization frames
- Use online guides and corpora to inform word and grammar choices
- Demonstrate their understanding of the fundamentals by editing their own writing to improve communication

Required Materials

- *Grammar Choices for Graduate and Professional Writers* by Nigel A. Caplan (you will receive the book on the first day of class)
- Access to Canvas
- A notebook for new vocabulary, handouts, and class notes

Recommended Materials

- *English Argumentation and Syntax* by Bas Aarts (ISBN 978-0-230-36169-0)