

English 4360/5360: History and Structure of the English Language

9:25-10:40 MW
Irby 304
Spring 2011

Instructor: Jay Ruud
Office: Irby 317I
Phone: 450-3674 (or 450-5100 for secretary)
Office Hours: MWF 9:00-12:00, or by appt.

Links:

- For an online Old English dictionary, check http://home.comcast.net/~modean52/oeme_dictionaries.htm
- Or this: http://directory.google.com/Top/Arts/Literature/World_Literature/British/Anglo-Saxon/Dictionaries/
- For an online Middle English dictionary, go to this site http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/med/med_ent_search.html
- try this <http://www.towson.edu/~duncan/glossary.html>
- Or this, <http://www.pbm.com/~lindahl/concise/concise.html>

Required Texts:

- 1 Algeo, John. *The Origins and Development of the English Language*. 6th edition. Bosto: Wadsworth, 2010. [referred to below as “Text”]
- 1 Algeo, John and Carmen Acevedo Butcher. *Problems in the Origins and Development of the English Language*. 6th ed. Boston: Wadsworth, 2010. [referred to below as “Workbook”]
- 1 **Optional Text:** A good dictionary (not a paperback but a hardcover dictionary with etymological entries) is essential for this course.

Course Description:

The catalog description for this class reads as follows: “A survey of English from the Anglo-Saxon to the modern period. Attention will be paid to the social, political and literary matrix within which the language developed. Lecture, discussion, writing.”

Course Objectives:

http://www.uca.edu/english/facultystaff/Ruud/Syllabi/Spring_2011/Spring_2011_English_... 2/10/2012

- | Students will understand how to use the *Oxford English Dictionary* and the International Phonetic Alphabet
 - | Students will understand how the modern Roman alphabet developed, and will recognize symbols used in earlier English writing.
 - | Students will understand the differences between inflective and other types of languages.
 - | Students will understand the familial relationship of world languages (including understanding Grimm's Law and Verner's Law).
 - | Students will recognize the sounds and structure of Old English.
 - | Students will be able to identify the factors that influenced the development of Middle English, and recognize dialect differences.
 - | Students will recognize the sounds, spellings, forms and syntax of early modern English.
 - | Students will be able to identify national and regional differences in contemporary English.
 - | Students will understand the factors that create semantic and vocabulary change in English as a living language.
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Timetable:

- | Wk 1:
 - | Th 1/13: Introduction to the course. Workbook, exercise 1.14.
- | Wk 2:
 - | Tu 1/18: Read Text, ch. 1 ("Language and the English Language: An Introduction"). Workbook, exercises 1.14, 1.17 and 1.18.
 - | Th 1/20: Read Text, ch. 2 ("The Sounds of Current English"). Workbook, ex. 2.3., 2.7, 2.12 and 2.14.
- | Wk 3:
 - | Tu 1/25: Read Text, ch. 3 ("Letters and Sounds: A Brief History of Writing"). Workbook exercises 3.12 and 3.13 (Look at 3.17 part 1).
 - | Th 1/27: Review of chapters 1-3 (a chance to ask any questions about the chapters before the test—for up to 15 minutes). **TEST 1 ON CHAPTERS 1-3.**

- | Wk 4:
 - | Tu 2/1: Read Text, ch. 4 ("The Backgrounds of English"). Workbook, exercise 4.2 and 4.3.
 - | Th 2/3: Workbook, exercises 4.5 and 4.6; Discuss Merritt Ruhlen's theory (online).
- | Wk. 5:
 - | Tu 2/8: Workbook, exercises 4.10 (q. 1 and 2) and 4/11 (look at q. 1, do q. 2)
 - | Th 2/10: Grimm's Law: Workbook, focus on exercise 4.14. Look at 4.15 and 4.16.
- | Wk. 6:
 - | Tu 2/15: Review of chapter 4. **TEST 2 ON CHAPTER 4.**

- | Th 2/17: Read Text, chapter 5 ("The Old English Period"). Workbook, exercises 5.2 and 5.6. Begin exercise 5.12. ***OE translation assignment available online for graduate students.***
- | Wk. 7:
 - | Tu 2/22: Workbook, exercises 5.12, 5.13 and 5.14.
 - | Th 2/24: Workbook, exercises 5/18 and 5.19.
- | Wk. 8:
 - | Tu 3/1: Review of Old English grammar.
 - | Th 3/3: Old English poetry. Look at "Caedmon's Hymn" (Workbook, p. 122).
- | Wk. 9:
 - | Tu 3/8: Review Old English. **TEST 3 ON CHAPTER 5. *Paper Assignment handed out.***

- | Th 3/10: Read Text, chapter 6 ("The Middle English Period"). Workbook, exercise 6.2.

Middle English dialects. Discuss *The Reeve's Tale* (online). Look at selections in 6.18.

Paper assignment available online.

Wk. 11:

Tu 3/15: Workbook, exercises 6.4 and 6.8 and 6.9 #1 (on p. 133).

Th 3/17: Workbook, look at 6.10 and do exercise 6.11, numbers 1 and 4 (handout of p. 141 will be coming on Tuesday the 2^{1st}), and 6.16 (refer to "Optional Assignment" for Middle English verb conjugation). ***ME translation assignment available online for graduate students.***

Wk. 12:

Tu 3/22: NO CLASS—SPRING BREAK

Th 3/24: NO CLASS—SPRING BREAK

Wk. 13:

Tu 3/29: Review Middle English. **TEST 4 ON CHAPTER 6.**

Th 3/31: Read Text, chapter 8 ("The Modern English Period [1500 to 1800]: Society, Spellings and Sounds"). Workbook, exercises 7.3 and 7.5 (questions 1, 3, 8 and 9). **OLD ENGLISH TRANSLATION DUE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS.**

Wk. 14:

Tu 4/5: Workbook, exercises 7.6 and 7.9.

Th 4/7: Read Text, chapter 8 ("The Early Modern English Period [1500-1800]: Forms, Syntax, and Usage") Workbook exercises 8.4 and 8.6.

Wk. 15:

Tu 4/12: Workbook, exercises 8.7, 8.9 and 8.10.

Th 4/14: Review Early Modern English. **TEST 5 ON CHAPTERS 7-8.**

Wk. 16:

Tu 4/19: Read Text, chapter 9 ("Late Modern English [1800-Present]"). Workbook, exercises 9.3, 9.4, 9.8 and 9.9. **MIDDLE ENGLISH TRANSLATION DUE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS.**

Th 4/21: Read Text, chapter 10 ("Words and Meanings"). Workbook, exercises 10.6, 10.7 and 10.8.

Wk. 17:

Tu 4/26: Read Text, chapter 11 ("New Words from Old"). Workbook exercise 11.25 (but first peruse 11.16, 11.17, 11.18, and 11.19).

Th 4/28: Read Text, chapter 12 ("Foreign Elements in the English Word Stock"). Workbook, exercises 12.2, 12.6, and 12.8. **PAPER ASSIGNMENT DUE.**

Final Exam: TEST 6 ON CHAPTERS 9-11. Tuesday, May 3, 8:00-10:00.

Assignments:

For undergraduates:

- There will be six tests (including the final), all of equal value. They will deal with the chapters indicated on the above timetable. The tests are designed to take no more than an hour or so, so that on test days there will be some time for questions and review before the exam. In addition, there are sample tests online on WebCT that should help you prepare for the exams. You should expect to do things similar to the exercises in the workbook, plus be able to identify or define important terms or ideas from the textbook and from class discussion.
- There will be a short research paper (1000-1500 words) due the final day of class (in it you should use at least two outside sources in addition to the textbook). A more specific assignment will be handed out on Tuesday, October 14.
- Class participation is expected and required. You should be in class each day ready to discuss the reading for that day, and to discuss the assigned sections of the Workbook. Though the workbook assignments will not generally be collected, we will go over them in class. Absences

will mean that you do not receive credit for the class discussion for that day.

- *Attendance and drop policy:* As the above makes clear, regular attendance is important for you to do well in this course. Any student with more than three consecutive absences, or six total absences for the semester, will be asked to drop the course or will be dropped with a WF grade.
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Additional Assignments: graduate students

- ┆ A translation of a short passage of Old English, with a paragraph explaining difficulties you encountered and why you translated some things as you did.
 - ┆ A translation of a poem in Middle English, with a short explanation of why you made some of the translation choices you did.
 - ┆ In lieu of the short paper, graduate students should write a longer paper of approximately 10 pages, including at least four outside sources, on a topic related to the history of the English language.
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Grades and Other Policies

Grades

Undergraduate students:

- ┆ For undergraduate students, final grades for the course will be based on the following formula:
 - ┆ Class participation=200 pts.
 - ┆ Tests=100 pts. each (total 600 pts.)
 - ┆ Paper=200 pts.
 - ┆ **Total=1000 pts.** For the final grade, 900 or more points will be an A, 800-899 a B, 700-799 a C, and so on.
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Graduate students:

- ┆ For graduate students, final grades for the course will be based on the following formula:
 - ┆ Translations=100 pts. each (for a total of 200 pts.)
 - ┆ Class Participation=150 pts.
 - ┆ Paper=250 pts.
 - ┆ Tests=400 pts. (each test will be entered in the grade book as 2/3 the numerical score—roughly 67 pts. each).
 - ┆ **Total=1000 pts.** For the final grade, 900 or more points will be an A, 800-899 a B, 700-799 a C, and so on.
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- Late papers or tests will be docked one letter grade
- The student handbook contains the following statement:
 - The University of Central Arkansas affirms its commitment to academic integrity and expects all members of the university community to accept shared responsibility for maintaining academic integrity. Students in this course are subject to the provisions of the university's Academic Integrity Policy, approved by the Board of Trustees as Board Policy No. 709 on February 10, 2010, and published in the Student Handbook. Penalties for academic misconduct in this course may include a failing grade on an assignment, a failing grade in the course, or any other course-related sanction the instructor determines to be appropriate. Continued enrollment in this course affirms a student's acceptance of this university policy.

In accordance with this policy, PLAGIARISM or any other form of academic dishonesty will result in an F for the assignment involved and/or an F in the course. (Plagiarism is representing the work of another as your own. This would include taking the words *or ideas* of a published source without giving that source proper credit; giving credit to a published source but

representing the source's words as your own (i.e., not putting the author's ideas into your own words, or not using quotation marks around quotations); or using the work of other students and passing it off as your own.

- **OTHER POLICIES:** Important academic policies and the campus Sexual Harassment policy are detailed in your *Student Handbook*. Consult the handbook for specifics.
- **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:** The University of Central Arkansas adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodation under this act due to a disability, contact the Office of Disability Support Services at 450-3613.