Linguistics 4070  History of English Language  Spring 2013

Instructor: Dr. Sadaf Munshi  
Email: sadafmunshi@unt.edu
Office: LANG 407D
Office hours: Tue/Thu 10:30am-12:00pm and by appointment
Class meets: Tue/Thu 12:30-1:50pm in LANG 304.

Course Description
In this course we will study the history of English language, its development through time and its present situation and position in the world. In doing so we will learn the various components of the English language (viz. phonology, morphology, lexicon, and syntax), its history, genetic affiliation (with Germanic and other Indo-European languages), historical reconstruction (through linguistic comparison based on materials and data from English and other languages related to it), dialectal variation (in terms of social, regional and national varieties), and different types of linguistic changes it has undergone over the course of its development (both language-internal changes as well as changes resulting from contact with other languages, such as, French, Latin, and many other languages as sources of borrowing of lexicon, morphology and grammatical features in English). Guidelines for specific topics to be covered during the course are provided in the course schedule.

Grading Policy
Homework Assignments... .....50%
Tests............................. .....50%

Homework and Tests:
You will be graded for a total of 5 out of 6 homework assignments (each worth 10 points) and two tests (mid-term and final, each worth 25 points).

Attendance and Participation:
Your attendance and participation in class is very important. Regular and consistent attendance is required to earn full credit for the course. DO NOT miss a class unless you have a genuine excuse to do so. Unexcused absences will be penalized. If you have 3-7 unexcused absences, your grade will be lowered by one letter grade. If you have 8 or more unexcused absences, you will receive an F. I generally notice students who come to class and nap, read rather than listen to the lecture, surf the web on their laptop, and so forth. Your grade will be affected by your attendance record and how you conduct yourself when you attend. Students who have few absences, come to class prepared and contribute regularly to discussion and in-class problem solving will be awarded full credit. Please switch off your cell phone or other electronic devices before class starts.

Textbook (Optional)

Course materials will be made available through the semester.

Other Suggested Readings and References
More readings are provided on the Course Schedule.
English Language History Online Resource (ELHOR): [http://pages.towson.edu/duncan/hellinks.html](http://pages.towson.edu/duncan/hellinks.html)
COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: Jan 15-17 ……Introduction: Linguistics and Phonetics Review, Sounds of English

Week 2: Jan 22-24 …… Historical Background: Indo-European and Germanic Languages

Week 3: Jan 29-31… Historical Background (contd.):

Week 4: Feb. 5-7 …… History of Writing
* Assignment #1 due Feb 7

Week 5: Feb 12-14… Old English Period

Week 6: Feb 19-21…Old English Period (contd.)

Week 7: Feb 26-28… Between Old and Middle English
* Assignment 2 due Feb 28

Week 8: Mar 5-7……….Review and Test 1

*March 7 TEST 1

(March 11-15 SPRING BREAK)

Week 9: Mar 19-21…Middle English Period

Week 10: Mar 26-28…Middle English Period (Contd.)
* Assignment 3 due March 28

Week 11: Apr. 2-4…… Modern English Period

Week 12: Apr. 9-11…… Modern English: Dialectology
* Assignment 4 due April 11

Week 13: Apr 16-18……Modern English: Words, Meanings and Word Formations

Week 14: Apr. 23-25……Language Contact and Lexical Borrowings

* Assignment 5 due April 25

Week 15: Apr. 30-May 1….Wind up and Review for Test 2
* Assignment 6 due May 1

May 4: TEST 2
TOPICWISE READINGS AND LINKS TO RESOURCES

Introduction: Linguistics and Phonetics Review, Sounds of English:
Baugh & Cable chapter 1
ELHOR chapter on Phonetics and Phonology
Articulatory anatomy: http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/

Historical Background:
Baugh & Cable Chapter 2, and
Comparative method: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparative_method
Internal reconstruction: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internal_reconstruction
Indo-European Language Family:
http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/lrc/edocctr/ie.html
http://www.utexas.edu/depts/classics/documents/PIE.html
Germanic Language Family: http://sofrat.home.mindspring.com/germanic.html
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germanic_languages
Indo-European Tree with Audio: http://pages.towson.edu/duncan/IELanguageTree.htm
The Germanic Invasions of Western Europe:
http://www.ucalgary.ca/applied_history/tutor/firsteuro/invas.html
Grimm’s and Verner’s Laws:
Verner’s Law (Ari Hoptman) - YouTube Videos - Part 1 (7:51) - Part 2 (3:12) - Part 3 (7:14)
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aal9VSPkf5s

History of Writing:
Greek alphabet: http://www.keyway.ca/gif/greek2.gif
http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/gle/images/greek_alphabet.gif
Origin of (Greek) Alphabet: http://webspaces.ship.edu/cgboer/alphabet.html
History of Alphabet: http://www.alphabetandletter.com
Phoenician, Greek/Roman alphabet: http://mr_sedivy.tripod.com/alphabet.jpg
Roman alphabet: http://www.theory.org/artprojects/alphabetsoup/cyrillic.png
Egyptian alphabet: http://www.alphabetandletter.com/egyptian.html

Old English Period:
Baugh & Cable Chapter 3-4
Old English Home Page (at University of Virginia):
http://www.faculty.virginia.edu/OldEnglish/index.html
Readings from Beowulf (texts with access to audio files)
http://facweb.furman.edu/~wrogers/phonemes/phone/rules/index.htm
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_english
http://facweb.furman.edu/~wrogers/phonemes/phone/oe/index.htm
http://courses.fas.harvard.edu/~chaucer/vowels.html (GVS)
http://members.tripod.com/babaev/archive/grammar42.html
http://members.tripod.com/babaev/archive/grammar43.html
Old English Inflections Magic Sheet:
http://www.faculty.virginia.edu/OldEnglish/courses/handouts/magic.pdf
Between Old and Middle English
Baugh & Cable Chapter 5-6

Middle English
Baugh & Cable Chapter 7 and
Old to Middle English Phonology:
http://facweb.furman.edu/~wrogers/phonemes/phone/rules/index.htm
http://facweb.furman.edu/~wrogers/phonemes/phone/me/index.htm
http://mockingbird.creighton.edu/english/worldlit/teaching/upperdiv/mideng.htm
Old to Middle English Grammar:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle_english

Modern English, English Dialectology and World Englishes
Baugh & Cable Chapter 8-10
Middle to Modern English Phonology:
http://facweb.furman.edu/~wrogers/phonemes/phone/rules/index.htm
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early_Modern_English
Middle to Modern English Grammar:
http://facweb.furman.edu/~wrogers/phonemes/phone/rules/index.htm
World Englishes: http://www.askoxford.com/globalenglish/types/?view=uk
English dialect links: http://www.evolpub.com/Americandialects/EngDialLnx.html
African American (Vernacular) English:
http://www.rehabmed.ualberta.ca/spa/phonology/features.htm

Language Contact and Lexical Borrowings
Borrowings into English:
http://www.askoxford.com/globalenglish/borrowings/?view=uk

*********

IMPORTANT:
I. The Department of Linguistics and Technical Communication cooperates with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability, which requires accommodation under the terms of the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please provide your request by email within the first week of class.

II. EACH STUDENT IS EXPECTED TO DO HIS OR HER OWN WORK. Plagiarism and cheating - academic dishonesty - are serious offenses and will not be tolerated in this class. STUDENTS WHO PLAGIARIZE OR CHEAT WILL BE REFERRED TO THE OFFICE OF STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND WILL RECEIVE A FAILING GRADE IN THE CLASS. For more information on the university's policy on academic dishonesty please consult the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline at http://www.unt.edu/catalogs/2004-05/upolicies.html.