Linguistics 4070  History of English Language  Spring 2017

Instructor: Dr. Sadaf Munshi
Office: B201E at Discovery Park
Class meets: Tue/Thu 12:30-1:50pm in WH 215
Office hours: Tue/Thur 11:00am to 12:00 noon in LANG409L and by appointment in B201E at Discovery Park

Description
In this course we will learn about the history and development of the English language through time, its present situation and position in the world. We will learn about the various components of the language (i.e., phonology, morphology, lexicon, and syntax), its history, genetic classification, historical reconstruction (through linguistic comparisons 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). Please refer to the course schedule for important dates and topics to be covered during the course and for links to course resources. Check Blackboard regularly for announcements and materials.

Grading Policy
Homework Assignments... .............40%
Tests................................. 50%
Attendance & Participation.........10%

Homework and Tests:
You will be graded for a total of 4 homework assignments (each worth 10%) and two tests (mid-term and final, each worth 25%). For homework assignments, students will be working in teams of 2-3 each; students should choose different team partners for different assignments.

Attendance and Participation:
Your grade will be affected by your attendance record and by how you conduct yourself in class. All unexcused absences will be penalized. If you have 3 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. The 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.

Note: there is no required textbook for this course

Useful 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)
Plagiarism Policy
For information on the University’s policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities, http://www.unt.edu/csrr/. For more information on how to avoid plagiarism and how to use citations, see http://anthropology.unt.edu/resources-writingpaper.php.

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