

Department of English & Writing Studies

History of the English Language
English 3001 (001)
Fall/Winter 2016-17

Instructor: Richard Moll
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Office hours: IGAB 0N05, Tues 1:00-3:30
(or by appointment, I'm around a lot)

Location: Arts & Humanities Building 1B08

Date/Time: Monday 12:30-1:30pm,
Wednesday 12:30-2:30pm

Prerequisite(s): At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020E or 1022E or 1024E or 1035E or 1036E or both English 1027F/G and 1028F/G, or permission of the Department.

Students are responsible for ensuring that their selection of courses is appropriate and accurately recorded and that all course prerequisites have been successfully completed, and that they are aware of any antirequisite course(s) that they have taken. If the student does not have the requisites for a course, the University reserves the right to remove the student from the course and to delete it from the student's record. This decision may not be appealed. A student will receive no adjustment to his or her fees in the event that he or she is dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Learning Outcomes:

The student who successfully completes the course will:

- Understand the relationship between the basic components of English (i.e. phonology, morphology, syntax and lexicon);
- Be able to discuss those components as they relate to the major changes in the language over time and place;
- Understand the changing social position of English across time and place;
- Be able to situate a piece of English writing within its immediate linguistic context;
- Have access to a vocabulary which allows them to discuss literature within a linguistic context;
- Understand the uses of several specialized databases and research tools necessary for the study of language.

Course Materials**Course texts:**

Brinton, Laurel J. and Leslie K. Arnovick. *The English Language: A Linguistic History*. 2nd ed. Don Mills: Oxford University Press, 2011.

McCrum, Robert, *et al.* *The Story of English*. London: Faber and Faber, 2011.

Moll, Richard. *Course Packet*.

Recommended: Hacker, Diana. *A Canadian Writer's Reference*. 4th ed. Boston/New York: Bedford, 2008. You probably have a writing handbook from ENG 1020, 1022 or 1027/8. Any will do, but you will find a handbook useful as you read Brinton & Arnovick.

Methods of Evaluation

Paper	15%
Translation	10%
Tests (7.5% each, best 4 of 5)	30%
Etymology assignment	10%
Final exam	35%

Value of term work and exam:

A student must receive a passing grade for both term work and the final examination in order to receive a passing grade for the course. This applies to all courses in all programs offered by the department. Students whose term and final exam grades average 50% or above, even though one of the two is a failure, shall receive a default grade of 48%. **Please note:** The department of English & Writing Studies does not release final grades. All undergraduate grade reports will be available online from the Office of the Registrar.

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/info%20for%20students.html#grade>.

Essay:

The essay must be presented in MLA style. It is due in class (and electronically) on the date assigned. A late essay will lose 3% per day (including weekends). The essay must be submitted to Turnitin (through OWL) on or before the due date. It may be submitted late to the drop box outside the English Dept. (AHB 2G02). Papers stamped "received after 4:00pm" (3:30 on Fridays) will be considered submitted on the following day (so get them in before the collection times).

Tests:

Only four of the five tests will be counted. The lowest COMPLETED test grade will be discarded. In other words, you can screw up once, but if you miss a test it WILL count towards your final grade as zero. BUT, I will allow anyone to rewrite ONE of tests 1-4 for a maximum grade of 75%. A missed test may be rewritten under the same conditions (i.e. you only get one rewrite due to either missing or screwing up on a test). Any make-up test must be written within one week of the test being **returned to the class**. Tests will usually be returned the week after they are written. I'm going to firm on this rule, so if you think you messed up a test, keep some free time.

Grammar:

This is not a course in grammar. Basic grammatical terms (such as *subject*, *object*, *subjunctive*, *active*, *passive*, *past participle*, *gerund*, etc.) will be used and you should familiarize yourself with this vocabulary. Use the textbook's glossary and look up any unfamiliar terms in your writing handbook.

Information for students:

Departmental and university policies related to course work, grades, plagiarism, appeals, etc. are available on the English Department website. Please see: <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergrd/info.html>

Timetable:

The Brinton/Arnovick text is highly technical and we will go over the key material in class, but do not rely on lectures alone. Read the assigned chapters, and look for the larger themes and issues which are summarized at the beginning of each chapter. Online material is just as important as the text book and course packet. **There are links to all online material in OWL.**

Mon. Sept. 12 First day of classes/ The basics

Wed. Sept. 14 Basic Concepts

Read: *English*, ch. 1 (to page 28)

Mon. Sept. 19 Basic concepts

Read: *English*, ch. 2

Wed. Sept. 21 Read: *English*, ch. 3 (to page 75)

Mon. Sept. 26 Indo-European and Grimm's Law

Read: *English*, ch. 4

Wed. Sept. 28 Read: *English*, ch. 5 (to page 151)

Story, pp. 46-55 (the first chapter is interesting, but it deals with material we'll look at near the end of the year)

Mon. Oct. 3 Old English (technical)

Read: *English*, ch. 3 (from page 75): This chapter introduces many important concepts which we will use throughout the year. We will talk about them in more detail at relevant points in the year.

English, ch. 5 (from page 151)

Wed. Oct. 5 Read: *English*, ch. 6 and 7 (to page 217)

Test 1 (basic concepts, IPA, Grimm's Law)

Mon. Oct. 10 Thanksgiving (eat well, but it doesn't mean you don't have to read)

Wed. Oct. 12 Old English (technical and cultural)

Read: *English*, ch. 7 (from page 218)

Caedmons's hymn: (<http://www.heorot.dk/bede-caedmon.html>)

Print the Old English and Latin versions and bring them with you! Read the translations of both the Old English and Latin versions (Bede originally wrote in Latin). Don't worry about the appendices of variants.

Mon. Oct. 17 Old English (technical review and cultural)

Read: *Story*, pp. 55-72

Wed. Oct. 19 Read: "Dream of the Rood." Use Mary Rambaran-Olm's website, which I

invite you to explore. Print out her translation (NOT the transcription) of the poem: <http://www.dreamofrood.co.uk>

Mon. Oct. 24 Middle English (which is to say, something you can read)

Read: *English*, ch. 8

Wed. Oct. 26 Read: *Story*, pp. 72-89

Test 2 (Old English phonology, morphology & grammar)

Mon. Oct. 31 Middle English

Read: *English*, ch. 9

- Wed. Nov. 2 Read: Robert Mannyng, "Prol. to *The Chronicle*" (course pack, lines 1-135)
Note: There are two versions of this text in the course pack. The first text (excerpts only) has some background material on Mannyng and his text and it is fully glossed. Read it first to help you get into the language. Then read the second version which is edited for academics rather than undergraduates. We'll discuss the text, and the editorial method of the two versions.
- Mon. Nov. 7 Middle English, national identity
Read: *English*, ch. 10 (just pp. 327-334). This is out of order, but understanding the Great Vowel Shift will make Middle English pronunciation much easier.
- Wed. Nov. 9 Read: Turville-Petre, Thorlac. "Politics and Poetry in the Early Fourteenth Century: The Case of Robert Manning's Chronicle," *The Review of English Studies* ns. 39 (1988): 1-28. (available online through JSTOR)
Robert Mannyng, *Chronicle* (course pack, finish both versions) (Turville-Petre talks about this text, so read him first.)
Translation exercise due
- Mon. Nov. 14 Middle English, standardization / print
Read: Fisher, John H. "Chancery and the Emergence of Standard Written English in the Fifteenth Century." *Speculum* 52 (1977): 870-899. (available online through JSTOR)
- Wed. Nov. 16 No additional reading.
- Mon. Nov. 21 Middle English, standardization / print
Read: *English*, ch. 9 (pages 310-320 again)
William Caxton, selections from *Eneydos* (course pack)
- Wed. Nov. 23 No additional reading.
- Mon. Nov. 28 Middle to Early Modern: the Bible
Read: *Cultural*, ch. 5
Wycliffite Bible (links and texts in OWL)
- Wed. Nov. 30 No additional reading.
Test 3 (Middle English phonology, morphology and grammar)
- Mon. Dec. 5 Early Modern English (technical)
Read: *English*, ch. 10 (to page 343)
- Wed. Dec. 7 Read: *English*, ch. 10 (from page 343)
- Dec. 6-17 Mid-year exams (no mid-year in this course)**
- Mon. Jan. 9 Early Modern English (technical)
Read: *English*, ch. 11 (to page 379)
- Wed. Jan. 11 Read: *Story*, pp. 90-107
- Mon. Jan. 16 Early Modern English: Thoughts on the Language
Read: *English*, ch. 11 (from page 379)
- Wed. Jan. 18 Read: Daniel Defoe, "Of Academies" in *Essays upon several projects...* (London, **1702**), 227-251 (Available online in *Eighteenth Century Collection Online* (ECCO). Make sure you use the **1702** edition. Instructions in OWL.)

- Mon. Jan. 23 Early Modern English: Self-conscious Language
Read: Jonathan Swift, "A proposal for correcting, improving and ascertaining the English tongue" (London, 1712). (Use the 1712 edition. Available online in ECCO)
- Wed. Jan. 25 No additional reading.
Test 4 (Early Modern phonology, morphology and grammar)
- Mon. Jan. 30 Early Modern English: Dictionaries and Reference Works
Read: Lord Chesterfield, "Letter to The World" (course pack)
Samuel Johnson, "Preface to A Dictionary..." (course pack)
- Wed. Feb. 1 No additional reading.
- Mon. Feb. 6 The proscriptivists (continued)
- Wed. Feb. 8 Finish up pre-modern English
- Mon. Feb. 13 English in North America
Read: Noah Webster, Spelling Book, (Link in OWL)
Story, pp. 106-129
- Wed. Feb. 15 No additional reading.
Paper due (Middle English or Early Modern self-consciousness)
- Mon. Feb. 20 Conference week (Happy Family Day)
- Wed. Feb. 22 Conference week
- Mon. Feb. 27 English Around the World
Read: *English*, ch. 12
- Wed. Mar. 1 Read: *English*, ch. 13 (to page 466: skip pp. 442-449, we'll come back to this)
- Mon. Mar. 6 English Around the World: United Kingdom
Read: John H. Fisher, "The History of Received Pronunciation" (course pack)
S.C. Ross, "U and non-U: An Essay in Sociological Linguistics" (c. p.)
- Wed. Mar. 8 Read: *Story*, pp. 11-22
- Mon. Mar. 13 English Around the World: United States
Read: *English*, ch. 13 (pages 466-482)
Story, pp. 209-250
Test 5 given out and posted in OWL (due Wed. Mar. 16)
- Wed. Mar. 15 Zora Neale Hurston, *Mules and Men* (selections in course pack)
Test 5 due (take home, due the 15th, AAVE)
- Mon. Mar. 20 English Around the World: United States
Read: William Labov, "The Logic of Nonstandard English" (course pack)
- Wed. Mar. 22 Read: Oakland County School Board Resolution on Ebonics:
(<http://www.linguistlist.org/topics/ebonics/ebonics-res1.html>)
Online Ebonics debate: Start with John Rickford's "The Ebonics controversy in my backyard"
<http://web.stanford.edu/~rickford/papers/EbonicsInMyBackyard.html>. Do some searching on your own, though, and be prepared to talk about one or two websites that you found (good, bad, and ugly).

Mon. Mar. 27 Canadian English (technical)

Read: *English*, ch. 13 (pp. 442-449)
Story, pp. 262-268.

Wed. Mar. 29 Read: Chambers, J.K. "Lawless and vulgar innovations': Victorian views of Canadian English." In *Focus on Canada*. Ed. Sandra Clarke. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Pub. 1993. 1-26. (course pack)

Etymology assignment due

Mon. Apr. 3 Catch-up / review

Wed. Apr. 5 Catch-up / review

Apr. 9-30 Final exam period (we WILL have a final exam, so check schedule before making travel plans)

Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

I **will not** and indeed **cannot** grant accommodation without notification from Academic Counseling.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

Plagiarism Checking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western:
<http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.