Western
Arts&Humanities

Department of English & Writing Studies

History of English Language
English 3300 (001)
Fall/Winter 2021-22

Instructor: Anne Schuurman
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Office hours: Thursdays 2-4 pm or by appointment

Teaching Assistant: TBA
Contact: TBA
Office hours: TBA

Course Location: TBA
Course Day/Time: Mondays 12:30-1:30 and Wednesdays 12:30-2:30

Antirequisites: The former English 3001

Prerequisites: At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020-1999 or permission of the Department.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

English has a long history which begins in the British Isles around the time of the fall of the Roman Empire and is still in progress across the world. It also has a long prehistory: its earliest reconstructable ancestor was spoken in the approximate area of what is now Ukraine about five thousand years ago. This course will tell the whole story of the language, paying particular attention to reading texts in different varieties of English from a wide chronological and geographical range. Its primary focus will be on the dynamic life of the English language: its instability and diversity; its relations with other languages; and its place in the social and cultural lives of its speakers. The course will begin by introducing students to the components of linguistic analysis; after working our way through a historical survey from Old to Modern English, we will conclude the course by exploring global forms of English and non-standard forms of English.

Objectives:

By the end of the course, successful students will be able to:

- acquire the necessary linguistic knowledge (of phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics) to be able to understand and describe the evolution of the English language;

- increase awareness of how language works generally, which will improve language-learning skills and heighten appreciation of Modern English;
- offer insight into the origins of English language, literature, and culture;
- develop further the ability to analyze texts critically.

Course Materials

Brinton, Laurel J., and Leslie K. Arnovick, *The English Language: A Linguistic History*, 3rd ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017) [required]

[Other short readings and web-based material will be provided via OWL]

Grade Distribution

You will be required to complete four tests, two formal written assignments, and a final exam. You are also required to participate in class discussions. Detailed instructions for each assignment will be available at the appropriate times on OWL.

Attendance & Participation	10%
Etymology Essay	20%
Research Essay	25%
Tests (4x5%)	20%
Final exam	25%
	100%

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/Student%20Information.html

Examinations/Attendance

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

1. A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
2. Any student who, **in the opinion of the instructor**, is absent too frequently from class, or, in the case of online courses, has not engaged sufficiently in class will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see
Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs
and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar.

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.

Reading Schedule (Subject to Change)

September

Sept 9: Fall Term Classes Begin

Week 1 ~ Introductions and Welcome

Week 2 ~ Excerpt from *How You Say It* (in Resources folder on OWL); IPA Guide (International Phonetic Alphabet), on pages 491-92 of your textbook.

Week 3 ~ *The English Language* (*TEL*) Chapter One (pp. 1-26).

Week 4 ~ *TEL* Chapter Two (pp. 27-60).

~Test #1 this week~

October

Week 5 ~ Chapter Three (pp. 61-95)

Week 6 ~ Chapter Four (pp. 96-128)

Oct 11 Thanksgiving

Week 7 ~ Chapter Five (pp. 129-153)

Week 8 ~ Chapter Five cont'd (pp. 153-161)

November

Nov 1-Nov 7: Reading Week

Week 9 ~ Chapter Six (pp. 162-176)

~Test #2 this week~

Week 10 ~ Chapter Six (pp. 177-192)

Week 11 ~ Chapter Seven (pp. 193-217)

~Etymology assignment DUE this week~

December

Week 12 ~ Chapter Seven (pp. 218-239)

Dec 8: Last Day of Fall Term Classes

WINTER TERM

Jan 3: Winter Term Classes Begin

Week 1 ~ Chapter 8 (pp. 240-80)

Week 2 ~ Chapter 9 (pp. 281-320)

Week 3 ~ Chapter 10 (pp. 321-39)

Week 4 ~ Chapter 11 (pp. 367-403)

~ Test #3 this week ~

Week 5 ~ Anne Curzan, from *Fixing English* (OWL), pp.1-11, 64-92; George Orwell, "Politics and the English Language."

Week 6 ~ Anne Curzan, "Non-sexist Language Reform and its Effects" (OWL), pp. 114-136

Week 7 ~ John E. Joseph, "Taboo Language and its Restrictions" (OWL)

Feb 19-27: Reading Week

~Research proposals DUE this week~

Week 8 ~ Chapter 12, pp. 404-433.

~ Test #4 this week ~

Week 9 ~ Digital English

~ Bibliographies DUE this week ~

Week 10 ~ David Crystal, from *English as a Global Language* (OWL)

Week 11 ~ Chapter 13, pp. 434-487.

~Research Essays DUE this week~

Week 12 ~ David Crystal, "The Future of Global English"; excerpt from *Language Death* (OWL)

Apr 12: Winter Term Classes End

Apr 14-30: Final Exam Period