

ENG G301 / D600 :  
THE HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
SPRING 2017  
DR. DAMIAN FLEMING

## WELCOME TO HEL !

CLASS MEETINGS: T R 3:00 – 4:15 PM LA 136  
OFFICE HOURS: T R 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM, and by appointment. Just ask!.  
Office: LA 149  
Email: [flemingd@ipfw.edu](mailto:flemingd@ipfw.edu)

COURSE WIKI: <http://hel2017.pbworks.com/>  
**VISIT THIS WEBSITE ^^^ Click "Request Access"**

### OBJECTIVES:

This course will serve as an introduction to the study of language in general, and specifically to the historical study of the English language. The course will give students grounding in the tools of linguistic study: phonology, morphology, graphics, semantics, syntax and lexicon. In particular we will trace the historical development of the English language, beginning with the classification of all languages, to the Indo-European language family to the successive stages in the development of English, from Old English to American English the many World englishes of the present day.

### REQUIRED TEXTS:

**Svartvik**, et al. *English – One Tongue, Many Voices* 2nd ed. ([Palgrave](#), 2016)  
ISBN: 978-1137550224 ([Amazon](#))

**McWhorter**, *Our Magnificent Bastard Tongue* ([Penguin](#), 2009)  
ISBN: 9781592404940 ([Amazon](#))

Always bring texts to class; they are necessary for informed discussion; **failure to bring your text to class is equivalent to an absence** (and you better check out the attendance policy).

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Regular attendance, intelligent participation, alert questioning, and careful preparation of reading and exercises as assigned
2. Regular participation on class wiki
3. Occasional Homework and Quizzes
4. 2 semester research projects, to be posted online
5. Midterm and Final Exams

GRADING: The term grade is calculated based on the following:

Participation:	9%
Office visit:	1%
Quizzes and homework	10%
Wiki work	10%
Projects	30%
Exams (midterm and final)	40%

GRADE SCALE:

A	94–100	Highest passing grade	4.0
A-	90–93		3.7
B+	87–89		3.3
B	84–86	Above-average passing grade	3.0
B-	80–83		2.7
C+*	77–79		2.3
C*	74–76	Average passing grade	2.0
C-*	70–73		1.7
D+*	65–69		1.3
D*	60–64	Lowest passing grade	1.0
F *	below 60	Failure	0.0

\* Not acceptable for [graduate credit](#)

**ATTENDANCE:**

This course is based in active participation; as a result, attendance in class is essential.

- 2 absences: participation grade = 0%
- **3 absences = course failure**

**WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:**

**I do not accept any late work**

**Failure to submit any written assignment will result in a failing grade for the course**

**EXAMS AND QUIZZES:**

We will have a midterm and a final based on the text readings and material covered in class.

**WIKI WORK (READ CAREFULLY)**

Each student has been assigned to one of two **Groups: J and V.**

Before each class, everyone will do ALL of the assigned readings. If your Group is assigned that day, each student must individually write an informal response of at **least 300 words** to the reading, and post it on our wiki before 2pm the day it is due. Failure to submit two of these will result in a failing grade for the class.

These don't have to be formal, but must be **at least 300 words long.** You can use the wiki space to review what you have read, try to explain concepts in your own terms, raise questions about the material, as well as present your opinion on the readings.

If your group is not assigned that day, read through your classmates' responses, and use the comment box to comment briefly on at least three of them. These comments don't need to be more than a few sentences long. Failure to comment on more than 3 occasions will result in a failing grade for the class.

To show that you have read this far in the syllabus, before the first class meeting, email me, Dr. Fleming, an image of the TV character ALF. If you send me an image that no other student does, I'll give you extra credit.

### **DISABILITIES STATEMENT:**

If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. Contact the Director of Services for Students with Disabilities (Walb Union, Room 113, telephone number 481-6657) as soon as possible to work out the details. For more information, please visit the web site for SSD at <http://www.ipfw.edu/ssd/>

Keep in mind that accommodations are not retroactive so it is best to contact the office **as soon as possible** so that timely arrangements can be made.

### **FOR ALL STUDENTS:**

No **retroactive** accommodations can be made. If you feel that you have an issue which may affect your ability to succeed in this class, you must come see me **before** you've defaulted on the class. Hopefully, any issue can be resolved, but no issue can be resolved after the fact.

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

#### **USING ANOTHER PERSON'S WORDS OR IDEAS WITHOUT ATTRIBUTION IS PLAGIARISM.**

Plagiarism will earn you an **F** for the course, and possible expulsion from the University. If you borrow an idea or quote from another author, you must cite where you found the material. If you have any questions about citing sources, please **\*\*ASK\*\*** before your turn in an assignment. I am happy to help, or visit the Writing Center. <http://www.ipfw.edu/casa/writing/>.

### **CONCERNING TEXTING IN CLASS:**

Texting of otherwise messing around on your phone during the class period will result in a **failing grade** for the course

### **LAPTOP POLICY:**

Similarly, laptops are great, but can also be a great distraction to yourself and others. Using a laptop or other device during class for non-class related activities will result in a **failing grade** for the course.

FIRST HALF SCHEDULE:

**\*\*NOTE:** The schedule below is subject to change; missing class is **not** an excuse for not knowing about changes to the schedule. The most up-to-date schedule for all assignments can be found on the course WIKI:

<http://hel2017.pbworks.com/>

Wk	Day	Date	Topic	Reading Due	Group	Other Assignment
1	T	10	Intro to class <a href="#">pater noster</a>	<b>**Get the Books!**</b>		<a href="#">Click here. Introduce yourself on Wiki</a>
JAN	R	12	Intro	Read Starvik Ch 1		<a href="#">Post Pet Peeves</a>
2	T	17	Language Change	<a href="#">Language Change Millward</a>	<a href="#">V 1</a>	
.	R	19		<a href="#">Phonology Millward 2</a>	<a href="#">J 1</a>	
3	T	24	Indo-European	<a href="#">Watch: Verner's Law (pt 1)</a> Read <a href="#">Baldi 12</a>	<a href="#">V 2</a>	
.	R	26	Alphabet Germanic	McWhorter Introduction	<a href="#">J 2</a>	
4	T	31	Old English	Svartvik ch 1	<a href="#">V 3</a>	
FEB	R	2	Old English Lit	Robinson Old English	<a href="#">J 3</a>	
5	T	7	Read some	Hough Ch 2 Marsden Flood Story		Hand in translation
.	R	9	Manuscripts			
6	T	14		McWhorter Ch 1	<a href="#">V 4</a>	Hand in transcription
.	R	16	1066	Svartvik Ch 3	<a href="#">J 4</a>	
7	T	21	(No class meeting)	McWhorter Ch 2		
.	R	23		McWhorter Ch 3		
8	T	28				
MAR	R	2		Midterm Exam		
.	T	7		SPRING BREAK		