

ENGL-40102 / ENGL-50001 :

THE HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

SPRING 2024 DR. DAMIAN FLEMING

WELCOME TO HEL !

CLASS MEETINGS: R LA 148 4:30pm - 7:15pm

OFFICE HOURS: by appointment. Just ask!

Office: LA 149

Email: flemingd@pfw.edu

Website: <http://hel2024.pbworks.com/>

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.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Attendance, participation, questioning, and preparation of readings and exercises
- Quizzes?
- Discussions
- HEL Project
- Midterm and Final Exams

REQUIRED BOOKS:

Stamper, Kory *Word by Word: The Secret Life of Dictionaries*
([Vintage/Penguin/Random House](#), 2017) ISBN: 9781101970263

Lots of free online readings, including:

David Johnson, **Language Connections with the Past: A History of the English Language (Free, online):**

<https://alg.manifoldapp.org/projects/language-connections>

GRADING:

Class Participation:	20%
Homework / Discussion / Quizzes	20%
HEL Project	20%
Exams (midterm and final)	40%

ATTENDANCE:

This course only meets once a week and will feature a lot of in class activities. Attendance is essential. At the same time, and your health and safety always come first. Please let me know if you have any concerns about attendance. I do not require documentation, but I do expect clear timely communication. If you miss 2 classes you fail. (there I put it in writing so we never have to argue later).

EXAMS AND QUIZZES:

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

PRE-CLASS PREPERATION (READ CAREFULLY)

We have regular reading assignments from our texts and online. Most weeks you will have two types of readings and two types of assignments:

1. Textbook work

We will have regular readings from a variety of different textbooks. Your job is to read these reading before class and do your best to understand them.

- a. For sections that you feel you have a good understanding of, you will create and submit multiple choice questions, as if you were quizzing your fellow students on their own reading comprehension of the same material. These will be submitted via google forms.
- b. For sections that you find confusing or unclear, you will post on our wiki. Explain what section is unclear, and explain what you think it's trying to explain.

2. *Word by Word*

We will also regularly have readings from *Word by Word*. For each of these readings you will write a post with three or more specific points raised in the reading which you can connect to something we have read in the textbook or discussed in class. Or concrete ways that the reading makes you think about particular issues.

For all posts, you must cite specific page numbers from our readings.

To show that you have read this far in the syllabus, before the next class meeting, email me, Dr. Fleming, an image of a medieval manuscript.

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.pfw.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:

Retroactive accommodations cannot 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. Using an artificial intelligence website for class work 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 use AI (including Grammarly) in generating your work for this class, you must let me know. **If you attempt to use AI generated writing as your own work, you will fail this class in the worst possible way.**

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.pfw.edu/casa/writing/>.

SCHEDULE:

<http://hel2024.pbworks.com/>