

ENGL-40102 / ENGL-50001 :

THE HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

SPRING 2020 DR. DAMIAN FLEMING

WELCOME TO HEL !

CLASS MEETINGS: T R 3:00 – 4:15 PM LA 144

OFFICE HOURS: T R 12:00 – 1:00 PM, and by appointment. Just ask!

Office: LA 149

Email: flemingd@pfw.edu

COURSE WIKI: <http://hel2020.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.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Attendance, participation, questioning, and preparation of readings and exercises
- Participation on class wiki
- Homework and Quizzes
- 2 semester research projects, to be posted online
- Midterm and Final Exams

REQUIRED BOOKS:

Stamper, Kory *Word by Word: The Secret Life of Dictionaries*

([Vintage/Penguin/Random House](#), 2017) ISBN: 9781101970263

McWhorter John, *Our Magnificent Bastard Tongue* ([Penguin](#), 2009)

ISBN: 9781592404940

GRADING:

Participation:	9%
Office visit (before Feb 15):	1%
Quizzes/ Homework / Wiki	30%
Projects	30%
Exams (midterm and final)	30%

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

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)

We will regularly have reading assignments from our texts and online. You will read them, then write an response of at **least 300 words**. These don't have to be formal, but must be **at least 300 words long**. In addition to any general thoughts you have about the readings, you must at least

1. Note 3 things you have learned
2. Ask 3 questions about the material

Failure to submit 2 of these postings will result **in a failing grade** for the course.

Additionally, before each class meeting, every student must look up a word in the [Oxford English Dictionary](#) and note something new you have learned, with an emphasis on etymological information. Write out a sentence or two summarizing what you have found and paste a link of the URL to the entry. And add it to our [OED list](#).

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.

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.pfw.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://hel2020.pbworks.com/>

Wk	Day	Date	Topic	Reading Due	Response	Other Assignment
1	T	14	Intro to class pater noster thou	Discussion of Books		Click here, Introduce yourself on Wiki , including letting us know WHY you are taking this class
JAN	R	16	Intro	Read Syllabus Write out 3 questions you have about the syllabus & bring them to class (to hand in)		Post Pet Peeves
2	T	21	Language Change	READ: Language Change Millward 1 READ: Word By Word: Preface, Hrafnkell	Jan 21	
.	R	23	IPA website	READ: Phonology Millward 2 READ: WbW But, It's Helpful website	Jan 23	
3	T	28	What is England Timeline	Read: HEL overview from Curzan WbW: Irregardless, Corpus	Jan 28	hand in HW 1
	R	30		Read Bastard Tongue: Introduction WbW: Surfboard, Pragmatic	Jan 30	
4 FEB	T	4	How many words?	READ: History of Dictionaries (see) Read this and this (about dictionaries)	Feb 4	Read Etymology Project Assignment use the comment box to ask a question about the assignment