

L304 / D601 OLD ENGLISH
FALL 2015
DR. DAMIAN FLEMING

CLASS MEETING: MW 4:30 - 5:45 PM LA 136
OFFICE HOURS: MWF 12 AM - 1 PM (or by appointment)
Office: LA 149
CONTACT INFORMATION: Office phone: (260) 481-0192
Email: flemingd@ipfw.edu

COURSE WEBSITE: http://users.ipfw.edu/flemingd/OE_Fall_15.html
Course Wiki: <http://oldenglish2015.pbworks.com>

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to the language and culture of the Anglo-Saxons: Old English, the oldest surviving version of the English language. Students will learn how to pronounce and translate Old English while learning about the culture of England c. 700 – 1100 CE. In addition to studying a wide variety of texts in the original, we will spend some time studying the epic *Beowulf* in translation.

REQUIRED TEXTS (AVAILABLE AT IPFW BOOKSTORE):

- *A Gentle Introduction to Old English*, Murray McGillivray, Broadview Press, 2011 ISBN: 978-1-55111-841-3
- *Beowulf, A New Translation for Oral Delivery*, Translated, with an Introduction, by Dick Ringler, (Hackett, 2007) ISBN:(0-87220-893-1)/(978-0-87220-893-3)

Always bring the appropriate text to class; it is 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. Daily attendance; close critical reading and preparation of all assignments; enthusiastic participation in discussion and translation
2. Lots of translation and memorization, which will be checked by quizzes
3. Memorization and recitation of the *Fæder ure* and a selection of Old English poetry
4. Homework
5. Research Project on an Anglo-Saxon manuscript
6. Midterm and Cumulative Final

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

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

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

NOTE:

- There are NO excused absences.
- Excessive lateness will count as an absence.
- Leaving class early will count as an absence.
- Sleeping in class will count as an absence.
- Doing work for another class will count as an absence.

Regardless of cause, **you are responsible** for all work missed during absences, including changes to the class schedule announced in class.

Students who miss the first day of class are required to hand in a signed Syllabus Contract before Monday, August 27. Failure to do so will result in a failing grade for the course.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

Engrave the following on your brain:

- **I do not accept any late work**
- **Grade for late work: 0%, returned without comment**

Give yourself plenty of time and leeway to get your work done and to deal with bumps in the road should they occur. Pretend, at least for this class, that you are operating in the real world.

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. Both exams will contain translation work.

We will also have quizzes. **Quizzes cannot be made up.**

RECITATION:

Each student will MEMORIZE and RECITE two passages of Old English. Everybody will memorize and recite the *Fæder ure* on Wednesday, Sept 16. If you've never done anything like this before, I suggest you get started as soon as possible. For the second memorization students will either

memorize *Cædmon's Hymn* or the first 10 lines of *Beowulf*, for recitation on Monday, Nov. 2.

TRANSLATION WORK:

A lot of the day-to-day work for this class will be translating. As a result, your translation should be extremely well prepared before you come to class. You will write out or type a modern English translation of the assignment which I will collect at the beginning of each class. Additionally, you will have read over the original and your translation a number of times so that it makes sense to you in Old English. Thus when I randomly call on you to translate aloud in class, you will have no problem. Both your written translation and in-class verbal translations will be graded.

ARTICLES:

Each student must choose 4 articles (one from each Unit) to read and write a 300 word summary/reaction paper to before the due date for the article listed on the schedule. Most of the articles are from *Beowulf and Other Stories: A New Introduction of Old English, Old Icelandic, and Anglo-Norman Literature*, available on reserve at Helmke. The Table of Contents (with full titles and authors) can be on our wiki.

RESEARCH PROJECT:

Details coming soon

GRADING:

Participation/recitation:	9%
Office visit:	1%
Research Project:	20%
Quizzes and translation work:	20%
Articles and Wiki-work	20%
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 or unauthorized discontinuance of class attendance; no credit.	

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

In accordance with University policy, if you have a documented disability, you may be eligible to request accommodations from the office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with disabilities are entitled to reasonable accommodations and should have equal access to learning. If you have any questions or you believe you need accommodations, contact the SSD office, Walb Union 113, Phone/TTD: 260 - 481 - 6657
<http://www.ipfw.edu/ssd/>

Keep in mind that accommodations are not retroactive so it is best to register **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/>)

LAPTOP/iPad policy

Recent research has shown that laptop use in the classroom can not only negatively affect students' learning, but it can also negatively affect the learning of those students sitting around you. This is not a lecture/note heavy course. Therefore laptops and other devices will not be allowed in class without my explicit permission. If you feel that the use of such a device is essential to your success in this course, please discuss the matter in private with me. I may ask that you write a formal petition explaining why. I will evaluate such petitions on an individual basis.

CONCERNING TEXTING IN CLASS

Texting (or any other use of a phone/device) during the class period will result in a **failing grade** for the course.

SCHEDULE:

****NOTE:** This schedule is subject to change; missing class is **NOT** an excuse for not knowing about changes to the schedule (see above: attendance).

AUG	Date	Reading Due	Other
1	M 24	Class intro	Faeder ure (audio)
	W 26		Read " Why Read Old English Literature " Comment 300 words Here
2	M 31	GIOE ch 1 and 2 (some audio examples) Memorize Faeder ure	Read " How Difficult is the Old English Language " Comment 300 words Here
SEP	W 2	GIOE 3 Do Exercises A,B,C (write out Q&A, hand in). For C, come up with at least 10 examples	
3	M 7	Labor Day	
	W 9	GIOE 4: Translate text p. 39-40; do exercises A,B,C (hand in) You don't have to write out the instructions, just the question. If it does not specify how many examples, give 10.	Article Sign-up Due (Units 1-2)
4	M 14	"se cyning" paradigm quiz (chart on page 47) eom paradigm quiz (p. 43-44) haebbe paradigm quiz (p. 44)	Unit 1 Articles Due <<QUIZ (pdf of the actual quiz) (pdf of the answers for the quiz)
	W 16	GIOE 5 Translate p. 47 W rite out paradigms of giefan and lufian ex. B: whenever you make up OE, give a translation of what you are trying to say ex. C: write out the OE and your translation	
5	M 21	"giefan" and "lufian" paradigm quiz	Unit 2 Articles Due <<QUIZ The actual quiz The answer key
	W 23		

Dr. Fleming
ENG D601/L304: Old English
Fall 2015

A Prayer (for success in this course):
To be memorized

Fæder ure,
þu þe eart on heofonum,
si þin nama ge-halgod;
to-becume þin rice;
ge-wurþe þin willa
on eorðan swa swa on heofonum;
urne ge-dæg-hwam-lican hlaf syle us to dæg,
and forgyf us ure gyltas,
swa swa we forgyfað urum gyltendum,
and ne gelæd þu us on costnunge,
ac alys us of yfele.
Soþlice.

Simple pronunciation notes:

þ = /th/

ð = /th/

æ = /a/ like “cat”

pronounce **every single** letter