

**Winter 2010**  
**English/Linguistics 381(01): The History of English**  
**Time: MWF 12:00–12:50**  
**Location: ST126**

**Instructor:** Dr. Robert W. Murray  
**Office:** SS 824  
**Office Hours:** Wednesday, 1400–1500  
(and by appointment)  
**Telephone:** 403 2208109  
**e-mail:** rwmurray@ucalgary.ca

**Course Materials**

- 1) **Text:** Brinton, Laurel J., & Leslie K. Arnovick. 2006. *The English language. A linguistic history*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2) **Reader:** Mitchell, Bruce, & Fred C. Robinson. 2001. *A guide to Old English*. 6th ed. Oxford: Basil Blackwell. (**Note:** The Reader will be used in a very limited way. If you do not want to purchase a copy, it will be possible to use copies available in the reserve section of the Library.)
- 3) **Dictionary:** Clark Hall, John Richard. 1984. *A concise Anglo-Saxon dictionary*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. Also available at:  
[http://www.ling.upenn.edu/~kurisuto/germanic/oe\\_clarkhall\\_about.html](http://www.ling.upenn.edu/~kurisuto/germanic/oe_clarkhall_about.html)
- 4) **Instructor Handouts** (on Blackboard).

**Course Topics**

Principles of Language Change  
The Indo-European and Germanic Origins of English  
The Linguistic Evolution of Old to Modern English  
Phonology, Orthography, and the Development of English Orthography from a Historical Perspective  
Linguistic Analysis of early English Texts

**Grading**

Two Tests (@ 25% each): 50% (Test 1, mid February; Test 2, mid March)  
Final (scheduled by registrar): 30%  
Two Assignments (@ 10% each): 20% (one analysis each of Old and Middle English)

**Grade Scale:** 98%, A+; 95%, A; 90%, A-; 86%, B+; 80%, B; 75%, B-; 68%, C+; 62%, C; 58%, C-; 55%, D+; 50%, D; < 50%, F.

**Reserve Material**

Brinton, Laurel J., & Leslie K. Arnovick. 2006. *The English language. A linguistic history*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.  
Campbell, Alistair. 1983. *Old English grammar*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.  
Clark Hall, John Richard. 1984. *A concise Anglo-Saxon dictionary*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.  
Mitchell, Bruce, & Fred C. Robinson. 2001. *A guide to Old English*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Wright, Joseph, & Mary Wright. 1983. *Old English grammar*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Wright, Joseph, & Mary Wright. 1972. *An elementary Middle English grammar*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

### **Fine Print**

1. It is not possible to make up a missed Test. In the case of an excused absence from a Test, the item is not counted and the weighting of the item is moved to the Final. Valid excuses for Test absence are birth, death, and serious illness involving yourself or members of your immediate family on the day of the Test. All excuses must be substantiated by the appropriate documentation. An unexcused absence from a Test will result in a grade of zero for that item. There are no make-up Tests.
2. **The prerequisites for this course are Linguistics 201 & 203 or equivalent. A student may not register in any linguistics course unless a grade of at least 'C-' has been achieved in all prerequisites for that course.**
3. The Undergraduate Advisor for Linguistics is Dr. Suzanne Curtin, SS 842/A 260 (ling.undergrad@ucalgary.ca); the Graduate Coordinator is Dr. Amanda Pounder, SS 838 (apounder@ucalgary.ca).
4. **Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct**  
Students should be aware that there are severe penalties for cheating and other forms of academic misconduct. Please read the section in The University of Calgary Calendar entitled 'Student Misconduct'. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:
  - a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
  - b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
  - c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
  - d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data, and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Some course assignments call for students to work in groups. Unless noted otherwise in writing, students must write up their own answers for submission of the assignment. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Possible penalties for plagiarism include: failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of plagiarism is also guilty of academic misconduct.