

ENGL 5301: 001 Medieval British Literature: Introduction to Old English
TR 3.30-4.50pm PH 211
Spring Semester 2015
J. Stodnick

Office-624 Carlisle Hall

Office Hours: TR 1.30-2.30 p.m. (or by appointment at other times)

Unless otherwise announced, I will hold my office hours at the Starbucks in the University Center. Please make sure that I know you are waiting if I am meeting with another student when you arrive.

Mailbox-204 Carlisle Hall

E-mail-stodnick@uta.edu

Course Description: Old English was the language written and spoken in England from about 450 to 1150. Our earliest recorded literature in English is written in Old English, and is inaccessible to the casual reader since the language has changed so much in the intervening centuries. This course will provide you with all the tools to read this literature for yourself in the original. We will learn how to pronounce Old English, the relevant parts of speech, and the system of endings that were added to make words meaningful in sentences. As we progress through the language we will practice our skills by completing helpful online grammar exercises and by reading extracts from real Old English texts—including poems, histories, and saints' lives. We will also learn much about Anglo-Saxon history and society, looking at the period's art, architecture, manuscripts, weaponry, jewelry, and dress.

Learning Outcomes: Students having completed this course will have a working knowledge not only of the language of Anglo-Saxon England but also of the culture more generally. In addition, students will have an increased facility and a greater level of comfort with the grammar and function of Modern English.

Drop policy: UTA instructors may not drop students for any reason. The final day to drop the course is April 3rd.

Required Texts: Peter S. Baker. *Introduction to Old English*. 3rd edition. Oxford: Blackwell, 2012. ISBN 978-0470659847 [referred to below as IOE]. Also available online at <http://faculty.virginia.edu/OldEnglish/>
Paper copy available at the UTA bookstore.

Jacqueline Stodnick and Renee Trilling. *A Handbook of Anglo-Saxon Studies*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2012. ISBN 978-1444330199 [referred to below as HASS]

Useful websites:

<http://michaeldrout.com>

Online grammar of Old English, including printable blank paradigms

<http://www-unix.oit.umass.edu/~bede/exercises.html>

Supplementary exercises for the King Alfred's Grammar site above

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/UofC/eduweb/engl401/lessons/index.htm>

Online Old English course with full lessons and grammar

Requirements/Assessment: This is a graduate course, and you are therefore expected to attend classes without question. If you miss more than two classes, your grade for the semester will be in jeopardy. You should not miss ANY classes without contacting me to let me know. Come to every class fully prepared and ready to discuss material, answer and pose questions, and translate. Grade breakdown will be as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| In-class quizzes | 10% |
| Discussion Board Presentation | 5% |
| Discussion Board Posting | 5% |
| Midterm exam | 25% |
| Final exam | 25% |
| 15 page research paper | 25% |
| Presentation | 5% |

Should you fail any individual component of this course, I reserve the right to assign you a failing grade overall.

Attendance: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I will evaluate attendance as outlined in the previous section.

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at

www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Working together in study groups for quizzes and tests, or even to discuss homework assignments, is encouraged. You will as graduate students obviously

know the distinction between productive collaboration and copying of another's work.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition,

instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND READINGS

Under "READING" are listed reading assignments to be completed for **that class day**; "ACTIVITY" indicates the material we will be covering in class; "ASSIGNMENT" directs you when to begin working on homework and its due dates.

Week One

- T 20 Jan Introduction to course and requirements; distribute syllabus.
Historical background to the Anglo-Saxon period.
How to use the book; practise translation and using glossary.
- R 22 Jan READING: IOE chapters 1, 3, 16; translate "The Fall of Adam
and Eve" (IOE 173) sentence [2]; HASS Introduction.
ACTIVITY: Continue historical background; manuscripts;
phonetic alphabet; Grimm's Law; dialects; grammar review.
ASSIGNMENT: Begin MS transcription exercise—due R 27 Jan.

Week Two

- T 27 Jan *Quiz 1—historical background, sound changes and grammar
review.*
READING: IOE chapters 2 and 4; translate "The Fall of Adam
and Eve" (IOE 173) sentence [3 and 4]; HASS Borders.
ACTIVITY: Old English pronunciation, case.
ASSIGNMENT: MS transcription exercise due.
Begin pronunciation exercise—due T 3 Feb.
- R 29 Jan READING: CONTINUE IOE chapters 2 and 4; translate "The Fall
of Adam and Eve" (IOE 173) sentence [3 and 4]; HASS
Literacy.

Week Three

- T 3 Feb READING: IOE 5.1-5.2; translate "The Fall of Adam and Eve"
(IOE 174) sentence [5]; HASS Writing.
ACTIVITY: Personal pronouns; possessive adjectives;

demonstrative pronouns.

ASSIGNMENT: Pronunciation exercise due.

R 5 Feb

Quiz 2—Pronouns.

READING: IOE 5.3-5.7; translate “The Fall of Adam and Eve” (IOE 174) sentence [6]; HASS Visual Culture.

ACTIVITY: Interrogative pronouns; indefinite pronouns; relative pronouns; reflexive pronouns; reciprocal pronouns.

ASSIGNMENT: Begin pronoun exercise—due T 10 Feb.

Week Four

T 10 Feb

READING: IOE 6.1; translate “The Fall of Adam and Eve” (IOE 174) sentences [7] and [8]; HASS Historicism.

ACTIVITY: Nouns.

ASSIGNMENT: Pronoun exercise due.

R 12 Feb

Quiz 3—Nouns.

READING: IOE chapter 6.2-6.3; translate “The Fall of Adam and Eve” (IOE 174) sentences [9] and [10]; HASS Time.

ACTIVITY: Nouns.

ASSIGNMENT: Begin Noun exercise—due T 17 Feb.

Week Five

T 17 Feb

READING: IOE 7.1-7.2; translate “The Fall of Adam and Eve” (IOE 174) sentences [11] and [12].

ACTIVITY: Verbs.

ASSIGNMENT: Noun exercise due.

R 19 Feb

Quiz 4—Verbs 1.

Reading: IOE 7.3-7.4; translate “The Fall of Adam and Eve” (IOE 174) sentences [13] and [14]; HASS Space and Place.

ACTIVITY: Verbs.

ASSIGNMENT: Begin weak verb exercise—due T 24 Feb.

Week Six

T 24 Feb

Reading: IOE 7.5-7.7; translate “The Fall of Adam and Eve” (IOE 174) sentences [13] and [14].

ACTIVITY: Verbs.

ASSIGNMENT: Weak verb exercise due.

R 26 Feb

Quiz 5—Verbs 2.

Reading: IOE 7.8-7.10; translate “The Fall of Adam and Eve” (IOE 174) sentence [15] to the end; HASS Women.

ACTIVITY: Verbs.

ASSIGNMENT: Begin strong verb exercise—due T 3 Mar.

Week Seven

T 3 Mar

Reading: IOE chapters 8 and 9; translate "The Life of St. Æthelthryth" (IOE 175) sentence [1]; HASS Gender.

ACTIVITY: Adjectives and numbers.

ASSIGNMENT: Strong verb exercise due.

R 5 Mar

Quiz 6—Adjectives and numbers.

READING: IOE chapter 10; translate "The Life of St.

Æthelthryth" (IOE 175) sentence [2]; HASS Sex and Sexuality.

ACTIVITY: Conjunctions and prepositions.

ASSIGNMENT: Begin adjective exercise—due T 17 Mar.

Week Eight

SPRING BREAK

Week Nine

T 17 Mar

Review for midterm exam

ASSIGNMENT: Adjective exercise due

R 19 Mar

Midterm Exam

Week Ten

T 24 Mar

READING: IOE chapters 11 and 12; translate "The Life of St. Æthelthryth" (IOE 168) sentences [3] to [6]; HASS Disability.

ACTIVITY: Concord and word order.

R 26 Mar

Using the DOE and online corpus.

READING: HASS Media.

ASSIGNMENT: Begin DOE exercise due R 2 Apr.

Week Eleven

T 31 Mar

READING: IOE Anthology 2 "The Life of St Æthelthryth" sentences [7] to [11]; HASS Hegemony.

R 2 Apr

READING: continue IOE Anthology 2 "The Life of St Æthelthryth" sentences [12] to [19]

ASSIGNMENT: DOE exercise due.

Week Twelve

T 7 Apr

READING: IOE Anthology 4 "The Martyrdom of Ælfheah" sentences [8] to [19]; HASS Violence.

ASSIGNMENT: Begin corpus exercise due R 9 Apr.

R 9 Apr READING: IOE Anthology 3 "Cynewulf and Cyneheard" sentences [1] to [15]; HASS Masculinity.
 ASSIGNMENT: Corpus exercise due.

Week Thirteen

T 14 Apr READING: IOE Anthology 5 "Sermo Lupi ad Anglos" sentences [1] to [13]; HASS Law and Justice.
 ASSIGNMENT: Begin corpus exercise—due R 16 Apr.

R 16 Apr READING: continue IOE Anthology 5 "Sermo Lupi ad Anglos" sentences [14] to [23]; HASS Race and Ethnicity.
 ASSIGNMENT: Corpus exercise due.

Week Fourteen

T 21 Apr READING: IOE chapters 13, 14, and 15; HASS Postcolonial.
 ACTIVITY: Introduction to Old English Poetry.
 ASSIGNMENT: Begin corpus exercise—due R 23 Apr.

R 23 Apr READING: IOE Anthology 10 "The Dream of the Rood" lines 1-49.
 ASSIGNMENT: Corpus exercise due.

Week Fifteen

T 28 Apr READING: continue IOE Anthology 10 "The Dream of the Rood" lines 50-100.

R 30 Apr READING: continue IOE Anthology 10 "The Dream of the Rood" lines 101-156.
 Review for Final.

Week Sixteen

T 5 May Presentations.
 ASSIGNMENT: Paper due.

R 7 May Presentations.

FINAL EXAM — THURSDAY MAY 14TH 2-4.30 P.M.
