

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500245 English Studies	OB	3	2
2501902 English and Catalan	OT	3	0
2501902 English and Catalan	OT	4	0
2501907 English and Classics	OT	3	0
2501907 English and Classics	OT	4	0
2501910 English and Spanish	OT	3	0
2501910 English and Spanish	OT	4	0
2501913 English and French	OT	3	0
2501913 English and French	OT	4	0

Contact

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Use of languages

Principal working language: english (eng)
 Some groups entirely in English: Yes
 Some groups entirely in Catalan: No
 Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Prerequisites

This course heavily draws on the 1st and 2nd year-courses in synchronic linguistics as well as the course History of English I taught in the previous term.

The course requires an initial level of English **C1** (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment). Students with **C1** can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning; they can express themselves fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions; they can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes; they can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The aim of the course in relation to the degree is:

- to apply and develop the concepts acquired in History of English I
- to provide more detailed knowledge and understanding of the historical evolution of English in its main varieties
- to introduce new tools for diachronic linguistic analysis
- to provide linguistic training to help students access the language of authors from different periods

- to prepare students for elective 4th-year subjects such as Variation and Change, Socio-linguistics or Philological Analysis, as well as subjects in the field of early English literature

Upon completing the course, students will be able:

- to recognize and analyse linguistic features which differ from contemporary English
- to understand and describe the emergence of important linguistic innovations in English
- to analyse and describe the phonological, morphological, lexical and syntactic characteristics of every stage of the English language
- to understand and describe how linguistic features are maintained or change over time within a perspective of functional systems and subsystems of the language.

Content

UNIT 1. Middle English

- External history
- Phonology
 - Sound-changes: phonological reduction; quantitative and qualitative vowel changes; consonantal changes.
 - Consonants, vowels, diphthongs and their spellings
- Morphology
 - Nouns: changes in gender and case
 - Adjectives: levelling of inflections
 - Pronouns
 - Numerals
 - Verbs: levelling of inflections; dialect variation
- Syntax
- Lexicon: borrowing, word formation, semantic shift and lexical loss
- Analysis of Middle English texts

UNIT 2. Modern English

- External history
- Phonology: consonants, vowels and their spelling; the Great Vowel Shift.
- Morphology
 - Nouns: plural and genitive
 - Adjectives: comparative and superlative
 - Pronouns
 - Verbs: syncretism; auxiliaries (do); modal verbs; verbal periphrasis.
- Syntax
- Lexicon: borrowing; new word-formation processes
- Analysis of Modern English texts