# UAB
## Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

**2017/2018**

**History of the English Language I**

Code: 100193
ECTS Credits: 6

| Degree | Type | Year | Semester |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2500245 English Studies | OB | 3 | 1 |
| 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 introduces the student to English diachronic linguistics. It draws heavily on synchronic linguistics courses taught in the 1st and 2nd years of the degree and prepares students for History of English II and 4th -year elective subjects such as Variation and Change, Sociolinguistics or Philological Analysis, as well as subjects in the field of early English literature.

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 aims of the course are:

- To describe and apply the phenomena and processes of historical linguistics.

- To relate the external history of the English language with the most relevant linguistic features of Pre-historical and Old English.
- To analyse and describe the phonological, morphological, syntactic, lexical and orthographic features of Old English
- To apply the knowledge and skills acquired to Old English texts.

## Skills

### English Studies
- Demonstrate a comprehension of the relationship between factors, processes and phenomena of linguistics, literature, history and culture, and explaining it.
- Demonstrate a general comprehension of the historical evolution of the English language.
- Demonstrate they know a wide variety of texts in English language of any mean (oral, written, audiovisual) and recognising implicit meanings.
- Utilising new technologies in order to capture and organise information in English and other languages, and applying it to the personal continued training and to the problem-solving in the professional or research activity.
- Working in an autonomous and responsible way in a professional or research environment in English or other languages, in order to accomplish the previously set objectives.

### English and Catalan
- Demonstrate a comprehension of the relationship between factors, processes and phenomena of linguistics, literature, history and culture, and explaining it.
- Demonstrate a general comprehension of the historical evolution of the English language.
- Demonstrate they know a wide variety of texts in English language of any mean (oral, written, audiovisual) and recognising implicit meanings.

### English and Classics
- Demonstrate a comprehension of the relationship between factors, processes and phenomena of linguistics, literature, history and culture, and explaining it.
- Demonstrate a general comprehension of the historical evolution of the English language.
- Demonstrate they know a wide variety of texts in English language of any mean (oral, written, audiovisual) and recognising implicit meanings.

### English and Spanish
- Demonstrate a comprehension of the relationship between factors, processes and phenomena of linguistics, literature, history and culture, and explaining it.
- Demonstrate a general comprehension of the historical evolution of the English language.
- Demonstrate they know a wide variety of texts in English language of any mean (oral, written, audiovisual) and recognising implicit meanings.

### English and French
- Demonstrate a comprehension of the relationship between factors, processes and phenomena of linguistics, literature, history and culture, and explaining it.
- Demonstrate a general comprehension of the historical evolution of the English language.
- Demonstrate they know a wide variety of texts in English language of any mean (oral, written, audiovisual) and recognising implicit meanings.

## Learning outcomes

1. Analysing and describing the linguistic characteristics of extracts of representative documents from different periods and geographical areas.
2. Applying the acquired methodologies of work planning to work in an environment in the English language.
3. Applying the acquired scientific and work planning methodologies to the research in English.
4. Applying the information in English that is available on the Internet, in databases, etc. to the work and/or research environments.

5. Applying the terminology and basic concepts of the diachronic study of the language.
6. Appropriately interpreting and using the information contained in reference books in terms of (English) historical linguistics, specially in the etymological dictionaries, and in the studies based on the main current historical corpus.
7. Describing and relating the interconnections between external factors and the internal evolution of the English language.
8. Finding and presenting information about historical and sociolinguistic facts that affect the functional and formal evolution of the English language.
9. Interpreting characteristic extracts from different historical periods of documents and texts in English.
10. Locating and organising relevant information in English that is available on the Internet, in databases, etc.
11. Recognising and explaining the grammatical, phonological, orthographic and lexical characteristics of the various historical stages of the English language.

## Content

- UNIT 1. Introduction to historical linguistics.
- UNIT 2. The origins of the English language: from Indo-European to Old English.
- UNIT 3. The external history of the Old English period: social, political, religious, demographic and cultural factors and its influence on linguistic change.
- UNIT 4. Old English: phonology, orthography, lexicon, morphology and syntax.

## Methodology

**Directed**

Theory

- Introduction to historical linguistics
- From Indo-European to Old English: linguistic changes
- The external history and its influence on linguistic evolution
- Old English: sound-changes, phonology and spelling, morphology and syntax, lexicon.

Practice

- Correction of exercises
- Discussion of topics

**Supervised**

Assignments (to be done in groups)

- Analysis, interpretation and discussion of structures and meanings
- Description of the relation between external factors and linguistic phenomena

In-class discussion

- Comparison of the linguistic features at different stages of the Old English period
- Discussion of examples

**Autonomous**

- Personal study
    Identification of the linguistic features of Old English texts
    Information search from different sources about the main historical events and their impact on the English language.
- Exercises
    Practice in the skills of analysis and synthesis

## Activities

| Title | Hours | ECTS | Learning outcomes |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Type: Directed** | | | |
| Practice | 10 | 0.4 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 6, 10, 11, 8 |
| Theory | 35 | 1.4 | 1, 5, 7, 9, 6, 11, 8 |
| **Type: Supervised** | | | |
| Exams and assignments | 15 | 0.6 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 6, 10, 11, 8 |
| **Type: Autonomous** | | | |
| Reading, study and practice | 75 | 3 | 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 6, 10, 11, 8 |

## Evaluation

**Assessment**

- The minimum grade on assignments and exams to form average is **4**.
- The delivery of 30% of assessment items (assignments / exercises / exams) excludes the possibility of obtaining the status of "not submitted" (NA) as a final course grade.
- The level of English will be taken into account in the correction of written work and in the final evaluation.
- Partial or total PLAGIARISM will immediately result in a FAIL (0) for the plagiarised exercise (first-year subjects) or the whole subject (second-, third- and fourth-year subjects). Plagiarism consists of copying text from unacknowledged sources -whether this is part of a sentence or a whole text- with the intention of passing it off as the student's own production. It includes cutting and pasting from internet sources, presented unmodified in the student's own text. Plagiarism is a serious offence. Students must respect authors' intellectual property, always identifying the sources they may use; they must also be responsible for the originality and authenticity of their own texts.

**Re-assessment**

- Items may be re-assessed provided that the student has passed at least 70% of the course and has submitted all items. Only 30% of the course can be re-assessed provided that the student has submitted all items and the final grade is over **4** and below **5**. Group assignments cannot be re-assessed.
- The maximum grade obtainable on a re-assesment exam is **5**.
- Re-assesment exams are scheduled by the Faculty well in advance and no alternative dates can be negotiated.

## Evaluation activities

| Title | Weighting | Hours | ECTS | Learning outcomes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assignment 1 (week 8) | 10% | 5 | 0.2 | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11 |
| Assignment 2 (week 12) | 10% | 5 | 0.2 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 6, 10, 11 |
| Exam 1 (week 5) | 15% | 1 | 0.04 | 1, 5, 11, 8 |
| Exam 2 (week 9) | 15% | 1 | 0.04 | 4, 5, 7, 10, 8 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Exam 3a (week 15) | 25% | 1.5 | 0.06 | 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 6, 11, 8 |
| Exam 3b (week 15) | 25% | 1.5 | 0.06 | 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 6, 11 |

## Bibliography

- **Algeo, J. (2010) The Origins and development of the English Language. Boston: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-1-4282-3148-1**
- Baugh, A. and Cable, T. (1993) A history of the English language. London: Routledge.
- **Hoad, T. (1986) The Oxford Concise Dictionary of English Etymology. Oxford: OUP.**
- Strang, Barbara M.H. (1970) A History of English, London: Methuen.
- The Cambridge History of the English Language, various authors, various years, CUP.

A wider bibliography will be made available at the start of the course.