

LING 30 – Introduction to the History of the English Language (3 units)

Instructor: Richard Abend

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Office Hours: T/Th 10:30-noon; Wednesday 1-3 pm

Class Text: *The English Language: A Linguistic History* by Laurel J. Brinton & Leslie K. Arnovick, Second Edition, Oxford University Press

OVERVIEW: This class traces the linguistic history of English from pre-history to its current status as a global language. Students are introduced to the historical events, the languages, and the structural changes that have shaped English into its present form.

GE AREAS MPC – C, D CSU – D3, D7 IGETC – 4C, 4G

Enjoy our class and please stay in contact with me and the rest of our group. It's too easy to get lost in cyber-space, and remember that you are not alone. We are all in this together! I enjoy teaching and especially enjoy linguistics, so please feel free to contact me as often as you like. I want you to succeed and also to enjoy our class. Let me help you do that.

To keep our class manageable, each week is organized similarly. Every Monday morning by 8 am, the week's activities are ready for you on our class' homepage. You will find links to that week's ACTIVITIES and FORUMS (Discussion Boards). There are also links for ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSIONS and QUIZZES. We will exchange no actual papers during the semester. Everything will be completed electronically. Of course, save all your files because things sometimes do get lost.

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES:

MPC Area C, Humanities:

Upon successful completion of this area, students will have demonstrated an ability to analyze and interpret human thought, achievement, and expression relevant to such branches of knowledge as philosophy, literature, and/or the fine and performing arts, and to communicate the results.

MPC Area D, Social Sciences:

Upon successful completion of this area, students will have demonstrated an ability to critically examine and comprehend human nature and behavior, social traditions, and institutions.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the conclusion of this class, you will be able to

- Explain how historical events and other languages have influenced English.
- Explain major changes that have occurred in the English language during the last 1600 years

OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of the course, students have demonstrated the ability to:

- Describe the Indo-European language family and the Germanic line's place in it.
- Explain how historical events have shaped the English language.
- Discuss the differences between Old, Middle, Early Modern, and Present-Day English.
- Identify native and borrowed words in the English language.
- Consider the effect syntactic, phonological, and lexical changes have had on English.

GRADING:

This course awards letter grades (LG) unless you opt to receive a Pass/No Pass (P/NP) grade. Discuss this option with a counselor if you are considering it. A special "Pass/No Pass Grade Request Form" must be submitted during the first weeks of the semester to be eligible for this option. The grading scale is

A/P = 100 – 90%

B/P = 89 – 80%

C/P = 79 – 70%

D/NP = 69 – 60%

F/NP = 59% or lower

Grades are calculated by the following formula:

***Forums** = 10% of the total grade

*(There are 16 Forums during the semester. Complete all 16 and receive full credit [10%].

Quizzes = 70% of the total grade

Final Project = 20% of the total grade

**A student may be dropped from the class by the instructor after two weeks of not logging in to the class.*

Repeatability: Students repeating a course in which they previously received a substandard grade of D, F, NC, or NP, and W will be limited to a total of three enrollments. Students are advised to carefully choose their courses each term to ensure successful completion. This new regulation is retroactive to Fall 1995. Please see the 2013-2014 Catalog for more information.

SYLLABUS:

WEEK ONE – Chapter One - “Studying the History of English”

Forum – Introductions

Quiz Chapter One –

WEEK TWO – Chapter Two – “The Sounds and Writing of English”

Forum – Chapter Two

Quiz Chapter Two

WEEK THREE – Chapter Three – “Causes and Mechanisms of Language Change”

Forum – Chapter Three

Quiz Chapter Three

WEEK FOUR - Chapter Four – “The Indo-European Language Family and Proto-Indo-European”

Forum – Chapter Four

Quiz Chapter Four

WEEK FIVE – Chapter Five – “Germanic and the Development of Old English”

Forum – Chapter Five

Quiz Chapter Five

WEEK SIX – Forum - Course Reflections

WEEK SEVEN – Chapter Six – “The Words and Sounds of Old English”

Forum - Chapter Six

Quiz Chapter Six

WEEK EIGHT – Chapter Seven – “The Grammar of Old English”

Forum – Chapter Seven

Quiz Chapter Seven

WEEK NINE – Chapter Eight – “The Rise of Middle English: Words and Sounds”

Forum – Chapter Eight

Quiz Chapter Eight

WEEK TEN – Chapter Nine – “The Grammar of Middle English and Rise of a Written Standard”

Forum – Chapter Nine

Quiz Chapter Nine

WEEK ELEVEN – Forum – Individual Research Reports

WEEK TWELVE – Chapter Ten – “The Words, Sounds, and Inflections of Early Modern English”

Forum – Chapter Ten

Quiz Chapter Ten

Final Project Announced

WEEK THIRTEEN – Chapter Eleven – “Early Modern English Verbal Constructions and Eighteenth-Century Prescriptivism”

Forum – Chapter Eleven

Quiz Chapter Eleven

WEEK FOURTEEN – Chapter Twelve – “Modern English”

Forum – Chapter Twelve

Quiz Chapter Twelve

WEEK FIFTEEN – Chapter Thirteen – “Varieties of English”

Forum – Chapter Thirteen

Quiz Chapter Thirteen

WEEK SIXTEEN – Forum – Free Choice

Final Project Due

COURSE COMMUNICATION: My first choice of communication with you is through email rabend@mpc.edu I respond to emails seven days a week, usually within 12 hours. My second choice of communication is through my on-campus office phone (831) 646-4112. Leave a message and I will respond within a day, seven days a week. If you don't hear back from me within a day, please email or call me again.

PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to participate twice weekly in online forum activities.

BUILD RAPPORT

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution.

COMPLETE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through MPC Online unless otherwise instructed. Assignments must be submitted by the given deadline or special permission must be requested from instructor *before the due date*. Extensions will not be given beyond the next assignment except under extreme circumstances.

All discussion assignments must be completed by the assignment due date and time. Late or missing discussion assignments will lower your grade.

DROP POLICY: The number of times a student may attempt a class is limited to three times per class by the California Community College system. To prevent any future problems, if you have not completed at least one forum or quiz during the first two weeks of class, you will be dropped without any record of you having registered for the class. Beginning in the third week of the semester, a drop from

the class is noted by a **W** on your official college transcript. The last day to drop a class is the 12th week of the semester. It is your responsibility to drop the class after the second week of the semester.

INCOMPLETE POLICY

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. An incomplete will be assigned if the only assignment missing is the Final Project. All incomplete course assignments must be completed within one year.

ACCOMODATIONS

If you have a disability and would like to request accommodations, please contact the instructor during the first week of the semester so that your accommodations may be provided in a timely manner. [Supportive Services & Instruction](#) (SS&I) provides assistance in determining and facilitating appropriate accommodations for students with verified disabilities. The SS&I office is located on the first floor of the Student Services building (STS 115).

Monterey Peninsula College's Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures

From the [MPC Academic Catalog](#): Academic honesty is a cornerstone of the educational community; therefore, students are expected to understand the standards of academic honesty as they pertain to students' behavior in the classroom.

Plagiarism

It is important for students to acknowledge sources that are used for completing classroom assignments. Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism may be any one of the following:

1. Verbatim copying without proper documentation of the source(s).
2. Paraphrasing without proper documentation of the source(s).
3. Unacknowledged appropriation of information or ideas from someone else.

If students have any questions about these forms of plagiarism or about an assignment they are preparing, they should ask their instructor for clarification rather than risk unintentional plagiarism.

Cheating

It is important for students to act in an honest and trustworthy manner. Work performed on examinations or other forms of evaluation must represent an individual's own work, knowledge

and experience of the subject matter. Students are expected to follow the classroom rules established by the instructor.

Cheating may be any one of the following:

1. Unauthorized looking at or procuring information from any unauthorized sources or from another student's work during an examination or from any work that will be graded or given points.
2. Unauthorized acquiring, reading or learning of test questions prior to the testing date and time.
3. Changing any portion of a returned graded test or report and resubmitting it as an original work to be re-graded.
4. Presenting the work of another as one's own for a grade or points.
5. Knowingly assisting another student in cheating.

This list is not all-inclusive and the list itself is not meant to limit the definition of cheating to just these items mentioned.

Consequences of Academic Dishonesty

The disciplinary action for cheating or plagiarism is up to the discretion of the instructor. The instructor may select one or more of the following options:

1. Issue an oral or written notification and warn the student that further acts of this sort will result in additional disciplinary action.
2. Issue an "NP" or a failing grade ("F") or "0" for the assignment in question.
3. Refer the student to the Vice President for Student Services for disciplinary action.