

**Course:** EN316 History of the English Language  
**Credit:** 3 Semester Hours  
**Semester:** SP 2025 (Session 1, 16 weeks)  
**Location:** TBA  
**Instructor:** Tim Hange,  
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*\*About This Class: This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.*

*\*About Changes to this Syllabus: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time during the course, but any changes made will only be done after clearly communicating the need for the change and the specific change to be made via in-class announcement and Canvas announcement.*

## I. DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the study of the English Language. The phonology, history, and grammar of English are examined in the context of cultural, social, and political history with attention also to current linguistic theory. **Prerequisites:** EN113 College Composition II and either EN212, 213, or 214.

## II. OBJECTIVES

### A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Explain the features of the English language (PLO 1-4; Assignments A-F).
2. Describe the stages of the English language from its origins to modern day English (PLO 1-4; Assignment A-D, F).
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the methods and tools of studying the English language (PLO 1-4; Assignments A-F).

### B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Discuss the origin and features of language in general and the English language in particular (PLO 1-4; Assignments A-F).
2. Describe how the sounds of English have changed through its history (PLO 1-4; Assignments A, B, C, D, F).
3. Describe how English letters and spellings of words have changed through its history (PLO 1-4; Assignments A, B, C, D, F).
4. Explain how English words and meanings have developed and changed through its history (PLO 1-4; Assignments A-F).
5. Summarize the major changes of English in the key periods (PLO 1-4; Assignments A-F).
6. Develop a dictionary of new words from contemporary sources (PLO 1-4; Assignments D).
7. Apply course material to a practical area of study or teaching (PLO 1-4; Assignment E)

### III. REQUIRED MATERIALS

#### A. Required Textbooks

- **The Bible** is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.
- *The Mother Tongue: English and How it Got That Way*, Bill Bryson. William Morrow. ISBN: 978-0380715435. Price: 17.99 (list price)
- *A History of the English Language, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition*, Baugh Albert C. and Cable Thomas Cengage Learning. ISBN: 9780415655965. London, Routledge. Price 61.99 (Retail)

#### B. Suggested Resources

- MLA Handbook, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition. ISBN 978-1603292627. \$14.40

### IV. REQUIREMENTS

**A. (Before Class) Reading Assignments/Journals:** Reading assignments are assigned from the required textbook (see course calendar for details). Complete assigned reading prior to the class period on which it is due.

**B. (Before Class) Workbook Exercises:** Complete the assigned exercises from the workbook. Exercises vary in difficulty and length. Some are short answer, while others require extensive reading and research. Ensure you allow for enough time in your week to complete this material. *It is critical you complete both the readings and exercises before class, as we will discuss this material in class.*

**C. (During Class) Participation Activities:** During each class, the professor will assign activities that must be completed by all students (both in-class and online). Follow instructions to complete the activities. These participation activities must be uploaded to Canvas before the next class period.

Students who do not maintain continuous academic activity will be dropped from the course.

**D. (By midterm) Dictionary Project:** Select five contemporary words from the list your professor provides for you. Explore internet and print sources for these words in contemporary usage, gathering quotations about how they are used and defined. Then construct dictionary entries for these words with sub-definitions (if needed) and at least 1 example sentence per definition.

**E. (End of Course) Application Project:** You have three choices for this project. You may (1) Write a lesson plan that practically applies course material to the classroom; (2) Use course material to do lexical study of a

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historical British piece of literature (*Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, or *Gulliver's Travels*, etc.), interpreting the work based on what you discover;  
(3) Write a piece of creative fiction based on a practical application of course material (for example, writing a science fiction piece in which characters talk in some future version of English).

Your project must include a 1–2 page reflection in which you explain the course material you applied.

**F. (End of course) English Language History Map Project:** Create a visual representation of the changes of the English language through the key stages we studied in this course. Be creative in your approach.

Project ideas (or come up with your own, with professor approval):

- Map
- Chart
- Painting
- Commercial
- News broadcast
- Skit
- Animation
- Puppet show
- PowerPoint
- Paint/Chalk talk
- Music video

This project should be something that *you* create and are the primary presenter in. Do NOT just play someone else's YouTube video, for example. It must capture each stage of the English language: Origins, Old, Middle, Early Modern, and Late Modern. Your project should also clearly include key course terms and concepts.

**G. Other Assignment Policies**

1. *Style Guide:* All class papers must follow the MLA style according to the *MLA Handbook*, 8<sup>th</sup> edition.
2. Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. In these cases, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has allowed, or even required, the use of AI to accomplish specific tasks. In these cases, AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.
3. *Other forms of cheating* include copying another student's work, allowing a student to do your work, using notes instead of reading the literary works, basing your research essay on another essay, bringing cheat sheets or written information to a quiz or an exam, and working collaboratively with another student on individual assignments. This also includes handing in one essay for assignments given in two different courses to reduce the amount of student work. Please check with the professor if you have concerns or doubts about the academic approach you plan to take for an assignment.
4. *Late work:* -10% from the final grade per day late.
5. *Originality:* Students may not hand in one paper for two different courses—even if the paper has been altered in some way. Students may not hand in a paper that was written for another class in previous courses. All work must be completely new and written solely by the student.

**V. METHODS**

**A. Lectures, Discussions:** This course is balanced between lecture and discussion. Students are expected to participate in discussions. Online students will be given special instructions about how to participate in these discussions.

**B. Reading and Writing:** All reading must be completed as assigned. *All projects must be completed to pass this course.* Grading rubrics are used on projects.

**C. Grading**

*Possible Points for All Assignments:*

Workbook Exercises (16 x 12.5)	200 points
Readings and Journals (16x12.5)	200 points
Participation Activities (16 x 12.5)	200 points
Dictionary Project	100 points
Application Project	100 points
English Language History Map Project	200 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000 points</b>

The Grading Scale can be found in the University Catalog.

**VI. Assignment Schedule:** An assignment schedule will be provided in Canvas prior to the start of the class.

**VII. Resources:**

- A. Accommodations Support:** Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.
- B. The Clark Academic Center:** The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.