

I. CONTACT INFORMATION

Class Time/Location: T 2:00-3:20/LA 140

Professor: Irene Appelbaum

Office/Office Hours: Social Sciences 211 / W 10:30-11:50 & by appt.

Email: irene.appelbaum@umontana.edu

II. TEXT

The following textbook is required:

How English Works: A Linguistic Introduction, Third Edition. Anne Curzan and Michael Adams, Pearson 2012
ISBN-13: 978-0205032280; ISBN-10: 0205032281.

Additional readings will be assigned and made available through the Moodle course site.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to the structure of Present-Day English and the history of the English language from its Anglo-Saxon beginnings. In the first half the course, we will examine different levels of linguistic structure: sounds (phonology), words (morphology), and sentences (syntax). Topics to be addressed include: the articulatory description of the consonant and vowel phonemes of English; the difference between phonemes and allophones; the analysis of words into component morphemes; the major word-formation processes of English; the difference between lexical and grammatical words; and, how a sentence differs from a mere string of words. In the second half of the course we will examine the characteristic features of Old, Middle, and Early Modern English. Topics to be addressed include the typological shift in English from more synthetic to more analytic; the dramatic increase in borrowing as a source of new words; the Great Vowel Shift; debates concerning the standardization of English; and the rise of prescriptivism.

IV. LEARNING OUTCOMES

- a basic understanding of how speech sounds are produced in the vocal tract
- the ability to transcribe basic English words and phrases phonetically
- an understanding of the difference between phonemes and allophones
- the ability to analyze words into their component morphemes
- the ability to distinguish inflectional morphemes from derivational morphemes
- knowledge of the eight inflectional suffixes of Modern English
- the ability to identify the central word-formation processes in English
- an understanding of the structure of English phrases and clauses
- knowledge of how to diagram a variety of English sentences
- an understanding of how languages change over time
- an understanding of the place of English in the Indo-European language family
- the ability to identify the characteristic linguistic features Old, Middle, and Early Modern English
- an understanding of the main external events contributing to changes in the history of English
- an understanding of the Great Vowel Shift
- an understanding the development of prescriptivism
- an understanding of the role of borrowing in the history of English
- an understanding of the difference between descriptive and prescriptive grammar.

V. ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Your performance in this course will be assessed by the following requirements:

- **HW Assignments:** Homework assignments are due once a week (on **Wednesdays**, except the final week of the semester. See VII. Course Outline below). There will usually be two assignments due each week. All

homework will be posted on the course website. Homework is to be downloaded from the course website, completed, and uploaded. You may choose to print out the assignment and complete it by hand; or you may type answers directly into the downloaded assignment (which will be posted as Word files). However you choose to complete the assignment, **the only acceptable file formats for uploading homework are Word and PDF files.** (This means you may take a photo of the completed assignment, but it must be converted to a pdf file before you submit it.) It is your responsibility to make sure all answers are legible. Homework I cannot read will be counted as incomplete. Some homework assignments will be from the textbook. In these cases too you must complete the assignments on the downloaded HW assignment. The length of assignments varies considerably, so be sure to review the week's assignments early so you are not surprised at the last minute. The HW is your time to learn the material, so you can get full credit for your HW even if you make several errors. (On the other hand, the answers are usually readily available from the textbook and therefore frequent errors often indicates a lack of effort.) Late assignments will be accepted, but are only eligible for half credit. There will be 26 HW assignments; your top 24 grades will count toward your final grade.

- **Tests:** There will be three in-class, closed-book tests during the semester. The tests will take place on the days indicated on the Course Schedule below, regardless of where we are in the syllabus. Tests will take place during the first part of the class period; there will be regular class following the test. Tests may include multiple-choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and short-answer questions. A study guide will be provided prior to each test. No make-up tests will be given without a written excuse from a medical doctor or for other excused absences in accord with University Policy. (See Participation section below.) A student with an unexcused absence on a test day will receive a zero for the test.

- **Final Exam:** The final exam will take place **Tue, Dec. 19, 3:20-5:20 PM** in our regular classroom. It will be cumulative, but weighted toward material introduced after Test 3. A study guide will be provided before the final exam. From the [University Catalog](#): Students may seek relief from writing more than two examinations during the same day. Students who are scheduled for more than two examinations may contact the appropriate faculty to arrange an alternate testing time during the scheduled final examination period. If satisfactory arrangements cannot be made, the student should seek the assistance of his or her dean.

Participation: To receive full credit for this portion of your grade, students must: attend class (see [Attendance](#) below); be prepared to participate in in-class exercises; use laptops, tablets, & other electronic devices only for the purpose of taking class notes; never, ever text during class.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken each class. If you arrive after attendance has been taken, it is your responsibility to add your name to the sign-in sheet at the end of class. **More than 3 unexcused absences will negatively affect your participation grade.** In accord with University policy, absences will be excused for illness, injury, family emergency or participation in a University-sponsored activity. A written note from a medical doctor is required in the case of illness or injury. Unexcused absences include absences for travel, work, out-of-town visitors, and work for other classes. Written medical excuses must be submitted as soon as you return to class. If you miss class for whatever reason it is your responsibility to find out what you missed.

Graduate Students Only

- **Essay and Outline:** In addition to the above requirements, graduate students will be required to write an essay of approximately 3,000 words. Topics will be suggested but, with instructor's approval, you may write on a topic of your own choosing. A detailed outline for the essay must also be submitted. The outline for the essay will be due **Thurs. Nov. 30 at 5 PM**. The essay will be due on the final day of class, **Tues. December 12 at 5 PM**.

Your final course grade will be based on the following calculation:

Undergraduates:		Graduate Students:	
Homework (24x2 pts each)	48 points	Homework (24x1.5 pts each)	36 points
Tests (3x10 pts each)	30 points	Tests (3x8 pts each)	24 points
Final Exam	18 points	Final Exam	16 points
Participation	04 points	Participation	04 points
		Outline (5 pts) & Essay (15 pts)	20 points

The grading scale for your final course grade is as follows:

93.00-100.00 points = A	80.00-82.99 points = B -	67.00-69.99 points = D+
90.00-92.99 points = A -	77.00-79.99 points = C +	60.00-66.99 points = D
87.00-89.99 points = B+	73.00-76.99 points = C	0.00-59.99 points = F
83.00-86.99 points = B	70.00-72.99 points = C -	

This course is offered for a traditional (T) letter grade only.

VI. COURSE POLICIES

Student Conduct Code: You are expected to adhere to the University of Montana [Student Conduct Code](#).

Academic Honesty: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.

Course Accommodations: The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration among students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you have a disability that adversely affects your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services (Lommasson Center 154; 406-243-2243). I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification. For more information, visit the [Disability Services](#) website.

Moodle: This is a blended course. We will meet face-to-face on Tuesdays only. The Moodle course site will be used to post all course materials and to make announcements. The course material on Moodle is organized by week. Weeks run from Thurs. to the following Wed. Typically, there will be two reading assignments, two powerpoint presentations, and two written homework assignments. **Homework assignments are due on-line every Wed. at 5 PM.** The course material for the entire week will be made available on Moodle one week in advance of when the homework is due (i.e., the Wed. before). **You are expected to do all reading and powerpoint viewing on your own. Face-to-face class time will be used to go over questions, to practice newly learned concepts, and to introduce material for the coming week.**

Withdrawing from the Course: From the [Registrar](#): Through the 15th instructional day, all classes are dropped in CyberBear. From the 16th through the 45th instructional day, all classes must be dropped using Drop forms (instructor signature required, advisor signature required for undergraduates). \$10 fee applies. From the 46th to the last instructional day prior to finals week, classes must be dropped using the Drop form (instructor and Dean signatures required, advisor signature required for undergraduates). \$10 fee applies.

Email: In accordance with University policy: I will use only the email address provided for you on the Moodle website for class emails. I will only respond to emails sent to me from your University email address. I will not communicate grade information via email. It is your responsibility to keep informed about information contained in email sent to your University email account.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE

The schedule of topics listed below is subject to change. The most current schedule information will be posted on Moodle. Reading assignments and homework assignments will also be posted on Moodle.

Class Date	Tests	Topic	Reading*	Homework Due Dates (submit on-line by 5 PM)
		PART I: STRUCTURE OF ENGLISH		
T 9/05		The System of Language	Ch. 1 pp. 7-13	W 9/6: Intro HW
		Human Language vs. Animal Communication	Ch. 1 pp. 13-20	
T 9/12		Phonology 1: Representing Speech	Ch. 3 pp. 63-68	W 9/13: Phon HW 1, 2
		Phonology 2: English Consonants	Ch. 3 pp. 68-72	
T 9/19		Phonology 3: English Vowels	Ch. 3 pp. 73-77	W 9/20: Phon HW 3, 4
		Phonology 4: Phonemes and Allophones	Ch. 3 pp. 77-80	
T 9/26	Test 1	Morphology 1: Kinds of Morphemes	Ch. 4 pp. 99-105;108	W 9/27: Morph HW 1, 2
		Morphology 2: Inflection and Derivation	Ch. 4 pp. 105-107	
T 10/3		Morphology 3: New Words	Ch. 4 pp. 110-118	W 10/4: Morph HW 3, 4
		Morphology 4: Morphological Typology;	Ch. 4 p. 100	
T 10/10		Syntax 1: Open-Class Lexical Categories	Ch. 5 pp. 129-144	W 10/11: Syntax HW 1, 2
		Syntax 2: Closed-Class Lexical Categories	Ch. 5 pp. 144-158	
T 10/17		Syntax 3: Phrases and Clauses; Syntax 4: Diagramming Simple Sentences	Ch. 6 pp. 167-174 Ch. 6 pp. 174-178	W 10/18: Syntax HW 3, 4
		PART II: HISTORY OF ENGLISH		
T 10/24	Test 2	Historical Linguistics	Baugh & Cable	W 10/25: Historical HW
		External History of English	McIntyre	
T 10/31		Old English 1: Sounds and Spelling	Smith	W 11/1: OE HW 1, 2
		Old English 2: Lexicon	Ch. 13, pp. 423-426	
T 11/07		Old English 3: Morphology	Ch. 13, pp. 426-430	W 11/8: OE HW 3, 4
		Old English 4: Syntax	Ch. 13, pp. 430-431	
T 11/14		Middle English: Lexicon	Ch. 13, pp. 436-438	W 11/15: ME HW 1, 2
		Middle English: Grammar	Ch. 13, pp. 439-440	
T 11/21		Early Modern English 1: Lexicon	Ch. 13, pp. 445-447	W 11/22: EME HW 1, 2
		Early Modern English 2: Grammar	Ch. 13, pp. 448-450	
T 11/28	Test 3	Early Modern English 3: The Great Vowel Shift	Fennell	W 11/29: EME HW 3
T 12/5		Standardization & Prescriptivism	Ch. 2, pp. 49-52; Singh	W 12/6: Prescriptivism HW; Dictionaries HW
		Dictionaries of English	Ch. 2, pp. 44-49	
T 12/12		American Dialects	Ch. 12, pp. 377-396;	T 12/12: AmerDial HW
		Modern & Future English	Ch. 14, pp. 456-484	

* Unless otherwise indicated, reading assignment refers to the course Textbook (see II. above).