Fitt i: Course Description

OEII builds on the grammatical foundations learned in OEI and adds to students’ knowledge of Anglo-Saxon literature and culture through reading a varied selection of shorter poems and prose in Old English and performing a reenactment of Bede’s story of Cædmon. In addition, OEII continues to strengthen students’ knowledge of the grammatical properties of language while training them to organize complex information in detailed, disciplined ways. Because Old English is a dead language, the course will also familiarize students with some of the basic language tools for studying and reconstructing Old English. The final goal of this course is to prepare students to translate Beowulf in the Spring term in ENG 430/530.

Texts


Additional readings will be supplied.

additional Texts
(not required)


Ne bið nan anginn herigendlic butan godre geendung.
Ælcf bið on ende gesungen. – Ælfric
**Fitt ii: Schedule**

**Week 1**
- T  Introduction. Translating.
- Th Introduction. Ælfric’s *Colloquy*.

**Week 2**
- T  *Wulf and Eadwacer*, Baker no. 16
- Th Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, “The Great Army,” handout

**Week 3**
- T  Chronicle, cont.
  - DUE: Assignment 1: Dictionaries
- Th Chronicle, cont.

**Week 4**
- T  Chronicle, cont.
- Th *Deor*, handout

**Week 5**
- T  *Wife’s Lament*, Baker no. 17
- Th *Wife’s Lament*, cont.
  - OPTIONAL MIDTERM, take-home, due Tuesday (if you want it corrected)

**Week 6**
- T  Bede, *Caedmon*, adapted for the stage
- Th *Caedmon*, cont.

**Week 7**
- T  *Caedmon*, cont.
- Th *Caedmon*, Enacted!

**Week 8**
- Th Bede, cont.
  - DUE: Assignment 2: Word Studies

**Week 9**
- T  *Dream of the Rood*, Baker no. 13
- Th *Rood*, cont.

**Week 10**
- T  *Battle of Finnsburg*, Baker no. 14
- Th *Finnsburg*, cont.
  - DUE: Old English Composition Project

**Scheduled Final Exam:** Friday, March 23, 8am
Fitt iii: requirements and Learning Outcomes

Requirements
Quizzes ......................................................... 25%
Participation (incl. Bede recitation) ................. 10%
Old English research tools projects .................. 25%
Optional midterm (take home, not graded)
Old English Composition: ..............................15%
Final exam .......................................................25%

Graduate Student Essay 20% (Quizzes, Participation, Research Tools Projects, and Final all lessened by 5% each)

Students who fail to turn in any written assignments or who miss more than 1/3 of the quizzes will automatically fail the course.

Grading key.
A+ = 97+  A = 94-96  A- = 90-93  B+ = 87-89  B = 83-86  B- = 80-82, etc. F = 59 and lower

Learning outcomes
This course will help you:
1. Understand Old English and the history, structure, and vocabulary of the English language.
2. Better understand basic grammatical concepts in any language, enhancing your understanding of MnE grammar and making learning subsequent languages easier.
3. Read literary and cultural texts with discernment and comprehension and with an understanding of their conventions
4. Draw on relevant cultural and/or historical information to situate texts within their cultural, political, and historical context.