

Winter 2017

ENG 429/529: Old English Ii

MW 12-1.20, 246 Gerlinger

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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 the *Battle of Maldon*. 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

Baker, Peter. *Introduction to Old English*, 3rd ed. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012. ISBN 978-0470659847.

Clark Hall, J.R. *A Concise Anglo-Saxon Dictionary*, 4th ed. With a Supplement by Herbert D. Meritt. 1894. Rprnt. Medieval Academy Reprints for Teaching 14. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2000. The best place to get this is from UTP directly. Amazon sells older editions, which are useless and difficult to distinguish from the 4th ed.

Additional readings will be supplied.

additional Texts

(not required)

Blair, John. *The Anglo-Saxon Age: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1984. OR James Campbell, ed. *The Anglo-Saxons*.

London: Penguin, 1991. For a history of Anglo-Saxon England. The first book is a mere 71 pages; the latter is copiously illustrated (and only \$7 more!).

Bradley, S.A.J., trans. *Anglo-Saxon Poetry*. London: Everyman, 1982. A prose translation of all Anglo-Saxon poetry.

Hurford, James. *Grammar: A Student's Guide*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994. Explains grammatical terms in alphabetical order.

Lapidge, Michael, et al. *The Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Anglo-Saxon England*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2001.

Ne bið nan anginn herigendlic butan godre geendung.

Ælc lof bið on ende gesungen. – Ælfric



Fitt ii: Schedule

Week 1

- M Introduction. ~~Ælfric's *Colloquy*. (Class cancelled because of weather)~~
 W Introduction. Translating.

Week 2

- M NO CLASS: MLKJr. Day
 W Cynewulf and Cyneheard from *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, Baker no. 3.

Week 3

- M Cynewulf and Cyneheard, cont.
 DUE: Assignment 1: Dictionaries
 W *Fortunes of Men*, handout

Week 4

- M *Fortunes of Men*, cont.
 W *Fortunes of Men*, cont.

Week 5

- M *Riddles*, Baker no. 10
 W *The Wanderer*, Baker no. 12, ll. 1-36.
 OPTIONAL MIDTERM, take-home, due Monday

Week 6

- M *The Wanderer*, ll. 37-72.
 W *The Wanderer*, ll. 73-115

Week 7

- M *The Battle of Maldon*, Baker no. 11.
 W *The Battle of Maldon*, cont.
 DUE: Assignment 2: Word Studies

Week 8

- M *The Battle of Maldon*, cont.
 W *The Battle of Maldon*, cont.

Week 9

- M *The Battle of Maldon*, cont.
 W *The Battle of Maldon*, cont. Reinacted!

Week 10

- M Bede, Cædmon, Baker no. 8.
 W Bede, cont.
 DUE: Old English Composition Project

Final Exam: Monday, March 20, 10.15am.

Fitt iii: requirements and Learning Outcomes

Requirements

Quizzes 25%	Participation 10%
Old English research tools projects 25%	Optional midterm (take home, not graded)
Old English Composition: Chronicle / Gnomes 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, 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.