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


Additional readings will be supplied.

additional Texts
(not required)


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

**Week 1**
M  Introduction. Álfric’s *Colloquy*. (Class cancelled because of weather)
W  Introduction. Translating.

**Week 2**
M  NO CLASS: MLK Jr. 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 Battle of Maldon*, Baker no. 11.
W  *The Battle of Maldon*, cont.

**Week 7**
M  *The Battle of Maldon*, cont.
W  *The Battle of Maldon*, ll. 73-115

**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%  
Old English research tools projects 25%  
Old English Composition: Chronicle / Gnomes 15%  
Graduate Student Essay 20% (Quizzes, Participation, Research Tools Projects, and Final all lessened by 5% each)  
Optional midterm (take home, not graded)  
Final exam 25%

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.