

Identification	Subject (code, title, credits)	ENGL-317 History of the English Language 3KU/6ECTS	
	Department	English Language and Literature	
	Program	Undergraduate	
	Term	Fall 2026	
	Instructor, title	Naila Qasimova, MA	
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	Classroom/hours	TBS	
	Office hours	TBA	
Prerequisites	LING-215		
Language	English		
Compulsory/Elective			
Required textbooks and course materials	Suggested textbooks: Albert C. Baugh and Thomas Cable, <i>A History of the English Language</i> , Routledge, 2002 David Crystal, <i>The Stories of English</i> . Penguin, 2004. Seth Lerer, <i>The History of the English Language</i> , 2 nd Edition, The Teaching Company, 2008 Scott Shay, <i>The History of English</i> , Wardja Press, 2008 Handouts: provided by the instructor		
Course description	The course introduces students to the history of Great Britain and offers an extensive analysis of the evolution of the English language and its place among other Germanic languages. The course will help students enhance their general and linguistic background and enable them to better understand the main regularities of language change and development. This course can be regarded as a rewarding addition to any theoretical language discipline, and be used in all teaching situations where the aim is to improve overall language proficiency that students need to satisfy growing academic requirements.		
Course objectives	1. to discuss the early history and emergence of English (OE) 2. to trace the language change in the Middle Ages (ME) 3. to follow the process of the formation of the national literary language (EMnE) 4. to make the course an integral part of the English language curriculum for the Humanities		
Learning outcomes	Students' awareness of the role of the historical processes in the emergence of the English language; better understanding of the language change and the periods of language formation; general improvement of speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills engaged in the learning process		
Teaching methods	Lecture	Yes	
	Group discussion	Yes	
	Other	Yes	
Evaluation	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam	Nov 2026	35
	Attendance	Cumulative/Ongoing	5
	Quizzes	TBA	15
	Reading	Dec 2026	10
	Final Exam	Jan 2027	35
	Total	Cumulative	100
Assessment	Quizzes are closed-book written tests. Quizzes are offered with or without prior warning. Reading Assignments are audio recordings of OE and ME tests by the students; these check students' ability to read and reproduce the specific sounds characteristic of the early periods. The format of Midterm and Final Examination tests will be discussed during the class meeting prior to each exam. Consultation meetings can be scheduled with the Instructor before the Final Examination date.		
Policy	Your attendance is an integral part of your grade for the course. Missing more than 30% of your classes without a valid excuse will result in disqualification from the Final Exam. Plagiarized work will not be graded.		

		AI Policy: Students may use artificial intelligence (AI) tools to assist with learning, brainstorming, and revising their work, unless the use of AI is specifically restricted for a particular assignment. Students remain responsible for ensuring that their submitted work demonstrates their own knowledge, understanding, and effort. Where required, the use of AI tools must be properly acknowledged or cited. Students must not use AI to generate or complete assignments when its use has been explicitly prohibited by the instructor. Presenting AI-generated content as entirely one’s own work may constitute a violation of academic integrity.	
Tentative Schedule			
Week	Date/Day	Topics	Textbook/Assignments
1	Sep 15-18	Introduction. Course Overview	Fall 2026 Syllabus
2	Sep 21-25	The Indo-European family The Germanic Languages	The IE Language Family The Germanic language group
3	Sep 28-Oct 2	Pre-Germanic Britain; the Germanic settlement of Britain; the beginning of English	The Roman conquest; The Anglo-Saxon conquest
4	Oct 5-9	Christianization; the Scandinavian conquest (8 th – 9 th c.)	Periodization
5	Oct 12-16	Old English: OE alphabet, spelling, and pronunciation	Writing systems of the ancient Germanics Old English reading practice
6	Oct 19-23	OE grammar, vocabulary OE manuscripts; foreign influences	Old English reading and grammar practice
7	Oct 26-30	Pre-Midterm Quiz. Middle English: The Norman Conquest (1066-1200).	Quiz The effects of the Norman conquest
8	Nov 2-6	The Formation of the vocabulary; ME pronunciation and grammar	Middle English reading practice
9	Nov 9*-13	*No Class The rise of the London dialect Late ME. Chaucer.	*Holiday Late Middle English
10	Nov 16-20	The introduction of printing; the development of literary language;	Early Modern English; the literary Renaissance and EMnE
11	Nov 23-27	Early Modern Period: grammar; Shakespeare’s language	Early Modern English grammar practice
12	Nov 30-Dec 4	The geographical expansion of English	English as an international language
13	Dec 7-11	World English	World Englishes
14	Dec 14-18	The future of English	The future of English
15	Dec 21-25	Pre-final Overview. Quiz.	Quiz