



### Course Materials

Brinton, Laurel J., and Leslie K. Arnovick, *The English Language: A Linguistic History*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017) [required]

[Other short readings and web-based material will be provided via OWL]

### Methods of Evaluation

The grade for the course will be arrived at as follows:

**Assignments (35%):** Students will complete four short written assignments. The number of assignments shall be four: one on phonetic transcription and analysis, one on etymology, one on onomastics, and one on contemporary English usage. Detailed instructions and advice will be given at the appropriate time. However, in the unlikely event you foresee problems with due dates, please be advised that extensions must be negotiated well in advance. Late assignments will be penalized four percent per day late (Saturday and Sunday are two days, so they count as two days) and will not be accepted more than one week after the due date (for the final assignment, not after the final exam). Assignments completed after class should be submitted via the drop box outside the main department offices in UC. Assignments must be presented in a consistent essay format (that is, according to a manual of style, the choice of which is up to the student); a detailed guide will be provided. Assignments will be graded according to quality of structure, organization, and expression; effectiveness and logic in argument; and, where applicable, depth and originality of thought.

**Mid-term (20%):** In January, we will have a mid-term test on our work to that point in the course.

**Quizzes (10%):** We will have six quizzes. The best five grades will count. The quizzes will be administered on random dates, but distributed more or less equally throughout the year (meaning, most likely, one quiz in each of September, October, November, January, February, and March). Quizzes will cover our current work and may be based on readings for the day the quiz is given (in other words, be prepared for class!).

**Final Exam (35%):** Students will be asked to give definitions of key terms, write short answer questions, and complete two longer essay-style or analysis questions. A complete overview and review will be provided in the final class before the exam.

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <https://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/Student%20Information.html>.

### **Additional Information:**

- 1) The best (and only) way to contact me outside of class and office hours is via email. Except in extraordinary circumstances, you can expect a response within 24 hours.  
function.
- 2) No e-mails of essays or any assignments will be accepted, unless by prior arrangement.

### Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be

together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at [http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf).

### **Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):**

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

### Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### **Plagiarism:**

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

### **Plagiarism Checking:**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure.

Timetable

September 9-11: Introduction; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 1

September 16-18: Phonetics; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 2

September 23-25: Phonetics; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 2 (cont.)

September 30-October 2: Phonology

October 7-9: Morphology and Etymology; **Assignment 1 due (October 9)**

October 16: Syntax

October 21-23: Semantics

October 28-30: Causes and Mechanisms of Language Change; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 3

November 4-8: Fall Reading Week

November 11-13: Proto-Indo-European; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 4

November 18-20: Germanic and the Development of OE; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 5

November 25-27: OE; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 6

December 2-4: OE; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 7; **Assignment 2 due (December 4)**

January 6-8: OE; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 7 (cont.)

January 13-15: OE; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 7 (cont.)

January 20-22: OE; Mid-term review; **Mid-term test (January 22 in class)**

January 27-29: ME; Brinton and Arnovick, ch. 8

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