

ENG 317: Word Building

Course Syllabus: Summer I, Mon-Thursday, Online

Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Dongmei Cheng (Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics)

Email: Dongmei.Cheng@tamuc.edu

Communication Response Time: Online communication from Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Allow up to 24 hours before the instructor replies and a longer response time during weekends.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

The required videos and supplementary readings will be made available online via D2L.

Required Textbook:

Cornog, M. W. (2010). *Merriam-Webster's vocabulary builder*. Merriam-Webster.

Optional Textbook:

Bragg, M. (2006). *The adventure of English: The biography of a language*. Arcade Publishing.

Note: This book is a matching book to the series of video we are using in this class: The Adventure of English. This book can be helpful for you to understand the videos better.

Both of the textbooks can be purchased from Amazon for a substantive discount.

Course description:

In this online course you will gain an understanding of the word-formation component of language. We will examine morphology, or word-formation, from both a historical as well as a contemporary perspective: emphasis will be placed on the study of words from both Latin and Greek roots, and how they are used to form some of the most frequently used academic words.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. You will gain an understanding of some aspects of the English language relating to word formation, in a historical perspective.
2. You will gain an understanding of how these roots will help you to expand your academic vocabulary.
3. You will also become familiar with using online dictionary resources.
4. You will learn the meaning of a number of words that you may have been unfamiliar with or that you may have used mistakenly.

English 317 will require daily work on the part of the student.

You will have four quizzes per week, and the content will require you to utilize the textbook and D2L. There is also an 8-episode documentary for you to watch during the first 4 weeks. After each episode, there will be several questions regarding the episode, which will also be counted for credits. There will be a final examination and a final project to measure the learning outcome in week 4 and week 5.

Please Remember: English 317 is ***not*** a correspondence course that you can do at your own speed/convenience. It is a skills-based course in which you need to build your knowledge step by step in each day's work. Therefore, you should keep track of your progress in the class in a timely manner.

Interaction with Instructor

If you have any questions regarding the course, please contact the instructor via email Dongmei.Cheng@tamuc.edu. Your email will be replied within 24 hours on weekdays. If you don't receive an email after the 24-hour period on weekdays, please contact the instructor again. Please note that emails sent after 5:00pm on a Friday or a weekend will be answered the following Monday.

Course Calendar

Note: TAE = The Adventure of English

| | | In class | Due date | Assignments |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|---|
| Week 1 | Monday | Introduction Chapter Introduction to the APA style | Tuesday | Self-Introduction |
| | Tuesday Unit 1 | TAE: Episode 1: Birth of a Language; Lesson 1 | Wednesday | TAE questions on the 1 st episode Quiz 1 |
| | Wednesday Unit 2 | Lesson 2 | Thursday | Quiz 2 |
| | Thursday Unit 3 | TAE: Episode 2: English Goes Underground; Lesson 3 | Friday | TAE questions on the 2 nd episode Quiz 3 |
| Week 2 | Monday Unit 4 | Lesson 4 | Tuesday | Quiz 4 |
| | Tuesday Unit 5 | TAE: Episode 3: The Battle for the Language of the Bible; Lesson 5 | Wednesday | TAE questions on the 3 rd episode Quiz 5 |
| | Wednesday Unit 6 | Lesson 6 | Thursday | Quiz 6 |

| | | | | |
|---------------|------------------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| | Thursday Unit 7 | TAE: Episode 4: This Earth, This Realm, This England; Lesson 7 | Friday | TAE questions on the 4 th episode Quiz 7 |
| Week 3 | Monday Unit 8 | Lesson 8 | Tuesday | Quiz 8 |
| | Tuesday Unit 9 | TAE: Episode 5: English in America; Lesson 9 | Wednesday | TAE questions on the 5 th episode Quiz 9 |
| | Wednesday Unit 10 | Lesson 10 | Thursday | Quiz 10 |
| | Thursday Unit 11 | TAE: Episode 6: Speaking Properly; Lesson 11 | Friday | TAE questions on the 6 th episode Quiz 11 |
| Week 4 | Monday Unit 12 | Lesson 12; Introduction to corpus linguistics; Introduction to the final project | Tuesday | Quiz 12 |
| | Tuesday Unit 13 | TAE: Episode 7: The Language of Empire; Lesson 13 | Wednesday | TAE questions on the 7 th episode Quiz 13 |
| | Wednesday Unit 14 | Lesson 14 | Thursday | Quiz 14 |
| | Thursday Unit 15 | TAE: Episode 8: Many Tongues Called English, One World Language; Lesson 15 | Friday | TAE questions on the 8 th episode Quiz 15 |
| Week 5 | Monday Unit 16 | Lesson 16 Quiz 16 | Tuesday | Independence Day—No School |
| | Tuesday | Independence Day—No School | Wednesday | Final Project Due |
| | | | Thursday | Final Exam Due |
| | | | | |

Note:

The quizzes and TAE questions are not timed, but please submit all your work **before the midnight of the due date specified in each unit**. You will be notified at the beginning of the course of the format for the quizzes.

Grading Policy

If you have completed all assignments by their due dates, in particular the final project and final exam, and satisfied the attendance requirements, and all other requirements stated in this specific or the departmental syllabus, your grade for this course will be determined as follows:

- . A \geq 90%
- . B 89-80%
- . C 79-70%
- . D 69-60%
- . F < 59%

Value of the assignments: Overall maximum score in the course: 1200 points.

- . Final project: 200 points
- . Final examination: 300 points
- . Quizzes: 300 points (total)
- . TAE questions: 200 points (total)
- . Participation: 200 points (total)

Quizzes: There will be 18 quizzes in total. In each quiz, you will be asked to write five very short essays to analyze five words given by the instructors. It can be found in the quiz section under each class thread. A sample quiz answer will be provided along with those words. You should not copy and paste any external resources without proper citations. You should use the APA style for citations in your quizzes and other assignments.

TAE questions: The TAE questions are designed to check your comprehension on the video. It can be found in the discussion board for classes in which you are assigned to watch the video.

Note: You will need to write down your answers to the TAE questions and submit them along with your answers to the quiz of the day in one word document (doc. & docx.)

Final project: In this project, you will utilize the COCA or COHA corpus and conduct a research project on the use of a word of your choice across different genres or throughout English history. You will write a two-page report on your findings. A detailed explanation of this project will be found in the D2L under class thread **Week 4**.

Final exam: The final exam consists of 2 parts. In the first part, there will be 10 very short essay questions, in which you will be asked to define and talk about a family of words. For example: what does "submit" mean? How is the word related to "subordinate" and "subaltern"? In the second part, you will choose to answer two questions regarding the history of English language from a poll of questions. Each question should be answered in around 200 words.

Participation: You are responsible for attending class and keeping a log of your attendance. To participate in this class, you will provide roots/prefix/suffix you think that are interesting or useful, give a short explanation of its meaning and origin. You will also provide at least 3 words that use this root/prefix/suffix. For the first discussion, please

post a short introduction of yourself to the student lounge. All these postings will be counted towards your participation.

* **Late work policy:** Failure to submit quizzes and the final examination within the given time period will result in a zero (0) on the said quiz or examination unless you have discussed an exception with your instructor at least 12 hours before the due date of the said assignment and received a confirmation from your instructor.

* **Format requirements of assignments:**

(1) You will post your quizzes in the designated **Submission Folder** before the given deadline at the end of each class instructions. Please do not send work in separate files--put all exercises into ONE Word file with your name at the top of the first page. Papers without names will have two (2) points deducted.

(2) You should use APA style for in-text citations and references. Any inappropriate use of citations will be considered plagiarism and have five (5) points deducted.

Note: Please note that this means that no excuse will be accepted for failure to comply with all the class requirements. Students needing particular attention should notify the instructors during the first week. If you miss a class you are responsible to receive the information you missed.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

When you have any questions, please try to find the answers to questions such as the deadline to a certain assignment or certain policies in the syllabus first before trying to email your instructor. Should you have any questions after reading the syllabus carefully, contact me at Dongmei.Cheng@tamuc.edu.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Academic Honesty Policy

Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of **academic dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. “Academic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another person and passing them off as one’s own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension and expulsion (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b[1, 2, 3]). Cheating, including plagiarizing papers in whole or part,

will result in a grade of zero (0) on the assignment for the first offense and failure of the course for any subsequent offenses.

Attendance Policy

Because your active participation in discussions is expected, attendance is vital for success in this course. Attendance is defined here as studying the readings, doing the assignments, and turning in homework. Since this is an online course there are no face-to-face meetings. However, assignments must be completed within a 48 hours window beginning from when the assignment is available. For example, if an assignment is due on June 24th at midnight, it will be available to the students beginning at 00:01 am, on June 22nd. Once the deadline of June 24th midnight is past, no assignments will be accepted, unless there are extenuating technical circumstances (failure of the servers, for example).

Failure on the student's side (any technology issues, e.g. not having internet access for a whole week while taking the class, for example) is NOT considered extenuating, as the student could find some other means of uploading their homework (for example, go to the library).

Assignment Policy

Students must stay current with all readings and discussions. Students must complete and submit all assignments by their respective due dates. Students are recommended to check their TAMUC email and D2L notifications at least once a day.

Late Work

We will not accept any assignment after its due date **unless you have confirmed with the instructor prior to the deadline**. Assignments submitted after the due date will receive a score of zero (0).

Drop a Course

A student may drop a course by logging into his/her myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled "Drop a class" from among the choices found under the myLeo section of the Web page.

Incompletes

Incompletes (grade of "X") are granted only under rare and extraordinary, usually medical, circumstances.

Administrative Withdrawal

We reserve the right to drop a student from the course administratively for excessive absences or violations of student conduct codes.

Grievance Procedure

Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the head of the Department of Language and Literature, Dr. Hunter Hayes.

Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 (“Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation”).

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

Tenets of Common Behavior statement: All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook);

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).
<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

Students with Disabilities information: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Student Disability Resources & Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce Gee Library, Room 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Nondiscrimination Notice

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.