ENG 690 01W 10018
Etymology: The History of Words
Winter Mini 2025

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COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook:
- Durkin, Philip. *The Oxford Guide to Etymology*. 2009. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-969161-6. **The book is available from the library as an online resource (ebook).** You may also purchase a hard copy. Purchasing a copy of the book is not a requirement. Other readings will be provided in the shell.

Course Description

In this course you will attain an advanced, graduate-level understanding of etymology, i.e., the historical development of words. We'll use the carefully written Oxford Guide to Etymology by the working etymologist Philip Durkin. While he mainly analyzes developments in English, and of course the many languages that are baked into it, this understanding will be indispensable for anyone interested in language change in form and meaning, and not least dispel the etymological fallacy that earlier meanings of a linguistic form hold privileged truths.

Student Learning Outcomes

A student who completes ENG 690 Etymology will:
1. become aware of the basic topics investigated in etymology and aspects of historical linguistics;
2. become aware of methodologies used in etymology, such as, language laws, word formation, borrowing, semantic shift;
3. become aware of neighboring fields of linguistics: such as lexicology, corpus linguistics, phonology, morphology, semantics;
4. become aware of the history of Indo-European languages, in general terms;
5. be able to perform etymological work.

Item	points
Introduction & Name Discussion	**3**
Participation (Q&A)	**27 (9x3)**
Comprehension Reviews	**40 (5x8)**
Final Project	**30**
Total	**100**

Please note, for graduate classes, "A" grades reflect work which is clearly superior and exceeds the minimum criteria on all dimensions. "B" grades mean a good, solid performance which fulfills the basic requirements for a particular assignment. Any work that receives a grade of "C" or lower does not meet the minimum requirements for graduate work.

A = >90%; B = 81-90%; C = 71-80%; D = 61-70%; F = < 60%

- ❖ Students will be responsible for familiarizing themselves thoroughly with the syllabus and all course instructions found in the online course platform
- ❖ Students will be responsible for reading all online materials and the textbook
- ❖ Students will be responsible for completing and submitting all assignments online
- ❖ Students will be responsible for contacting the professor via the Virtual office or email regarding questions on assignments PRIOR to the due date.
- ❖ Students unable to meet a deadline should contact the instructor **AHEAD** of the deadline.
- ❖ F2F students follow the same syllabus, deadlines, requirements, etc. but must attend the classes. Online students may attend remotely, using the Zoom system. Instructions are in the shell. Attendance for online students is optional.
- ❖ ***Students should always keep a backup of all materials submitted online.***

Work Schedule

We have 15 days to cover what we do in a regular 15-weeks semester (let that one sink in). This means roughly that a day is equivalent to a week of a regular semester. The students are responsible for reading the assigned material by 11:30pm on the day it is assigned (so for example, chapter 1 is due by 11:30pm of the first day of class) and posting in the Q&A section by the day indicated in the syllabus. All times are CST (Central Standard Time). **Students are also responsible for checking their email and checking the announcements for the course daily.**

Q&A: All students must either a) post a question relative to the day's reading, if they have a question, or b) answer a question by another student. If the instructor answers a question, you will no longer get credit for answering that question. If two students answer a question, the first student with the correct answer will get credit. If a second student also answered the question correctly, the instructor will determine if the second correct answer gets credit and in case of a

negative decision will give the student a chance to make up the points. No more that two students may answer a given question and still get credit. If a question is asked twice, by different students, the two questions count as different ones (and so answering either will count for credit). Students may answer more than one question. Credit for Q&A is calculated as follows: posting a question or a correct answer: 2 points; posting an incorrect answer 0-1 points (depending on how much is right in the answer), posting more than one answer, comment, etc. 3 points (assuming they are good posts). In other words, you need to post more than one question/answer to ensure full credit. **Questions and answers must be posted in the discussion area on the day they are due between 00:01 am and 11:30 pm.** Q&A cannot be posted before or after that time. **You may read the materials ahead of time, but you cannot post ahead of time.** If a student does post after the deadline they will not receive credit for the post. The point of the Q&A is to engage in discussion of the material. If a student posts before or after the discussion they are not engaging with the other students and the instructor. If there are no questions posted, students may post a short discussion of one of the points in the reading. **Please do not post (links to) outside sources without clearing them with the instructor first** (there may be copyright issues or other problems). Posts with unapproved external materials will be deleted and will not get credit. Students may respond to responses and thus engage in discussion. Particularly valuable contributions to discussions (very good answers or discussions) will earn extra credit points.

Comprehension reviews are due by 11:30 pm on the day indicated in the course outline and calendar at the end of the syllabus. Each CR is worth 8 points. Answers to the CRs have to be between 50 and 100 words in length (unless instructed otherwise in the CR itself). Any answer that is outside of that range may not be counted for credit at the instructor's discretion. CRs must be turned in within the LMS. CRs submitted in emails to the instructor will not be counted, unless prior arrangements have been made.

Coverage of the CRs: consult the course outline (last page of the syllabus). Each CR covers the material from the day of the previous CR or the beginning of the course and inclusive of the day prior to the current CR. So, for example, CR2 covers from day 3 to day 6. In terms of readings CR2 covers CH 2 and 3 of the Durkin book and words of the day 3-6.

The final assignment consist in writing a short etymological note on a cluster of words, similar to the essays in the "word of the day" section. You must pick a topic and post a notification to the class of what words you will be covering. (see calendar for the exact date) and have a draft in to the instructor ready about 2/3 of the way in the course (see calendar for exact date). You will submit the draft in the "Draft of final assignment" folder.

Questions that are relevant to the rest of the class (for example, you find a typo in the textbook which affects comprehension) should be emailed for distribution at my discretion.

Personal questions should be directed to the instructor privately. Questions about grades, quizzes, etc. are only answered privately.

Online Participation
I expect that students will exhibit courtesy toward others in this class. Courtesy means not engaging in rudeness or refusing to focus on group or class discussion. Courtesy means engaging in such behaviors such as listening carefully to others, accepting that various points of views can be valid, maintaining a focus on the discussion in hand and treating others as you wish to be treated. Online courtesy requires meeting some different standards than face/face situations: a good guide to Netiquette can be found at: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/

Students should always keep a backup of all materials submitted online.

"Artificial Intelligence"
You may only use computational tools commonly referred to as "AI" with advance permission by me and acknowledgement in the assignment. Unless stated otherwise in a specific assignment that means you may not use such tools.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or **point** release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2Lsupports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
  - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones.
  - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.

- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp

- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.
    Pop-ups are allowed.
    JavaScript is enabled.
    Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/
  - Adobe Flash Player *(version 17 or later)* https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/
  - Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/
  - Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT
Brightspace Support
Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "click here" to submit an issue via email.

System Maintenance

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I will respond to emails within one working day of receipt.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late work will be penalized or will earn zero points, at the instructor's discretion. Missed exams, quizzes, assignments, etc. will earn zero points, unless PRIOR arrangements had been made with the instructor. In the case of extenuating circumstances beyond the students' reasonable control, the instructor will make a decision on a case-by-cases basis. Failure to back up your work, system failures within the last 30 minutes of a submission window, or student error do not fall under extenuating circumstances. It is the students' responsibility to make sure that the assignments are properly submitted, on time, and backed up in multiple locations.

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

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.
http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

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

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

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

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:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-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.

COURSE OUTLINE

Unit	Date	Durkin	Q&A	Word	other
1	12/16	1		1	intro
2	12/17		Q&A1	2	
3	12/18	2		3	CR1
4	12/19		Q&A2	4	
5	12/20	3		5	
6	12/21		Q&A3	6	
7	12/22	4		7	CR2
8	12/23		Q&A4	8	project topic
9	1/2	5		9	
10	1/3		Q&A5	10	CR3
11	1/4	6	Q&A6	11	project draft
12	1/5	7	Q&A7	12	
13	1/6	8	Q&A8	13	CR4
14	1/7	9	Q&A9	14	
15	1/8	10		15	CR5
	1/10				project final

This calendar is subject to change. Please consult the announcements page in the class for notices of changes and email announcements.