Administrative Unit: Humanities Department

Course Prefix and Number: ENGL 312

Course Title: The English Language II

Number of Credit Hours: 3
Lecture Hours: 3
Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: Study of the history and dialects of the English language.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): ENGL 112; junior standing or instructor’s permission.

Text(s): Several suitable language histories are available for this course. The texts listed below represent samples of several suitable texts.


Course Objectives: To explore the History of the English Language, from its Indo-European roots to its contemporary forms, including some sense of English as a world language and some sense of American English’s linguistic diversity.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the difference between prescriptive and descriptive grammar.
- Define and apply the terminology of English Linguistics, including English phonology and morphology.
- Demonstrate knowledge of distinguishing features of English as a Germanic language.
- Identify and distinguish the major periods of the History of English, their characteristics, and the cultural and historical forces impinging upon them.
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic historical linguistic changes and their properties (such as Grimm’s Law).
- Demonstrate an awareness of linguistic diversity.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- Introductory linguistic review
- Indo-European roots of the Germanic languages
- Old English
- Middle English
- Modern English
- Contemporary linguistic diversity of English in the world and U.S.

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 30
Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

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Date: January 06, 2005

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

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