

El Anglo-Sajón: Factores Culturales en el Cambio Lingüístico

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Course Descriptor

The aim of this course is to make the student familiar with the notion of linguistic change and the factors that underlie it. Language does not evolve separately from the cognitive skills of its users and the cultural context where they are immersed. This situation is reflected by lexical structure, morphology, phonology and syntax. Furthermore, in this course the language is analyzed as a self-regulated system, whose internal organization is disrupted by changes that force it to re-establish a state of equilibrium by a further chain of alterations. We reappraise language change from an ecological view of language that can be defined by Varela, Thompson and Rosch's (1992) notion of structural coupling. Anglo-Saxon was affected by a series of processes that endow it with a privileged status for the study of linguistic developments as the result of the speaker's biological organization and use.

Compulsory Readings

1 Blake, N. F. 1996 *A History of the English Language*. Chap. 1 "What is a History of English?" pp. 1-23. Longworth Editorial Services, Longworth.

2 Blake, N. F. 1996 *A History of the English Language*. Chap. 2 "Background Service" pp. 24-46. Longworth Editorial Services, Longworth.

3 Blake, N. F. 1996 *A History of the English Language*. Chap. 3 "Before Alfred" pp. 47-74. Longworth Editorial Services, Longworth.

- 4 Strang, Barbara 1970 *A History of English*. Chap. VI: “970-770” pp. 317-350. Methuen & Co Ltd, London.
- 5 Curran, S. Terrie 2002 *English from Cædmon to Chaucer*. Chap. 6 “The Dialects of Old English” pp. 139-148. Providence College, Prospect Heights, Illinois.
- 6 Baugh, Albert & Thomas Cable 2002 “Foreign Influences on Old English” pp. 74-107. Routledge, London.
- 7 Curran, S. Terrie 2002 *English from Cædmon to Chaucer*. Chap. 7 “The Struggle for Survival” pp. 149-166. Providence College, Prospect Heights, Illinois.
- 8 Trask, R. L. 1996 *Historical Linguistics*. Chap. 8 “The Comparative Method” pp. 202-47. Arnold, London.
- 9 Geeraerts, Dirk 1997 *Diachronic Prototype Semantics*. Chap 4. “Prototypical Polysemization and the Isomorphic Principle” pp. 123-156. Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- 10 Maturana, Hugo & Francisco Varela 1992 *The Tree of Knowledge*. Chap. 8 “Social Phenomena” pp. 179-204. Shambhala Publications, Inc. Boston, Massachusetts.
- 11 Varela, Francisco; Evan Thompson & Eleanor Rosch 1991 *The Embodied Mind*. Chap. 8 “Enaction: Embodied Cognition” pp. 144-184. The MIT Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts.
- 12 Fischer, Olga; van Kemenade Ans; Koopman W. & Wim van der Wurff 2000 *The Syntax of Early English*. Chap. 7 “Changes in Infinitival Constructions” pp. 211-255. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Attendance to the three sessions is recommendable.
- 2) In the second session, the student must present a critical analysis – aprox. two pages – of two of the readings. S/he should be ready to answer questions from the other

students. The contrastive analysis must contain the following parts: summary, identification of relevant points, connections between the facts stated, envisaged lines for future research, etc. The speaker's personal contribution could be opinion, provision of examples in English, Spanish or other languages, etc.

3) In the third session, each student must present a guideline to his/her project and description of tasks developed. Partial conclusions of the work carried out up to that moment are very welcome.

REFERENCES

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Bammensberger, A. (ed.) *Die Laryngaltheorie*, Heidelberg, 1988.

Beekes, R. S. *Comparative Indo-European Linguistics*, John Benjamins, 1984.

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Cable, T. *A Companion to Baugh and Cable's History of the English Language*, Routledge, 2002.

Cassidy F. G. & R. N. Ringler, *Bright's Old English Grammar and Reader*, Harcourt, 1971.

Duckett, E. *Alfred the Great and His England*, London, 1975.

Geneus, H. "The Origin Old English", *Anglo-Saxon England*, vol. 1, 1972, 63-83.

Godden, M. *Ælfric's Catholic Homilies, The Second Series: Text*, London, 1866.

Harris, J. *Hermes or a Philosophical Inquiry Concerning Language and Universal Grammar*, 1751

Humboldt, W. von *Über die Verschiedenheit des menschlichen Sprachbaues*, Berlin, 1836

Hunter Blair, P. *An Introduction to Anglo-Saxon England*, Cambridge, 1965.

Levison, W. *England and the Continent in the Eighth Century*, Oxford, 1946.

- Lühr, R. *Die Kontinuante der urindogermanischen Medialflexion im Germanischen*,
Münchener Studien zur Sprachwissenschaft, München, 1956.
- Moreno Hernández A. & Leticia Carrasco Reija, *Lengua y Literatura Latinas I*,
Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, 2001.
- Northup, C. S. *A Register of Bibliographies of the English Language and Literature*,
New Haven, 1925.
- Patch H. R. & R.J. Menner, “A Bibliography of Middle English Dialects”, in *English
Studies in Philology*, vol. 20, 1923.
- Pokorny, J. *Indogermanisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch*, vol. 1, Bern, 1959.
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Kommunikation in England von der Mitte des 11. bis zum Beginn des 14.
Jahrhunderts*, Stuttgart, 1979, 68, 159.
- Schelerath B. (ed.), *Grammatische Kategorien*, Wiesbaden, 1985.
- Smith, J. J. “Dialectal Variation in Middle English and the Actuation of the Great
Vowel Shift”, *Neuphilologische Mitteilungen*, vol. 94, 1993, 259-77.
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Chronicle”, in *Studia Germanica Gandensia*, vol. 14 (1973), pp. 95-106.
- Wermser, R. *Statistische Studien zur Entwicklung des englischen Wortchatzes*, Bern,
1976.
- Whitelock, D. *English Historical Documents*, London, 1955.
- Wright, C. E. *English Vernacular Hands from the Twelfth to the Fifteenth Centuries*,
Oxford, 1960.

SELECTED WEB-SITES

Online Course in the History of English: Murray McGillivray at the University of Calgary: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/UofC/eduweb/engl401/>

General Resources: Old English Pages: <http://www.georgetown.edu/cball/oe/old-english.html>

Medieval Sourcebook at Fordham: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook.html>

Phonology and Grammar: Audio files of Old English: <http://www.georgetown.edu/cball/ling001/intro-resources-sound.html>

Murray McGillivray: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/UofC/euweb/engl401/grammar/index.htm>

Glossaries: Modern English to OE: <http://www.mum.ca/Ansaxdat/vocab/wordlist.html>

Old English Electronic Texts: Beowulf: <http://www.humanities.mmaster.ca/~Beowulf/>

Beowulf (translation): <ftp://ftp.std.com/WWW/obi/Anglo-Saxon/Beowulf.Translated.Gummere>