



## ENGLISH 3303 Structure and History of the English Language

**Dr. Sarah Moreman**  
[smoreman@sulross.edu](mailto:smoreman@sulross.edu)  
 Phone: (830) 703-4837

**Office:** Del Rio Faculty Building Room 213  
**Office Hrs:** T, W, Th 10:00 - 2:00  
 and by appointment

### Course Description

In English 3303 we study both the structure and history of the English language including such fascinating issues as language acquisition, the nature of language itself, and the different kinds of English we encounter in our daily lives. We will study the grammar of English including phonology, morphology, and syntax. Classes will be student-centered and thus will include discussions of the readings, group work on linguistic exercises, oral presentations of your etymology work, and my lectures on the history of the English language.

### Texts

- Baugh, Albert. C. and Thomas Cable. *A History of the English Language* New edition. Routledge; 2012. ISBN-10: 041565596X ISBN-13: 978-0415655965
- Readings in Blackboard

### English Program Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to construct documents that demonstrate coherence, development, organization, and appropriate/effective grammar, usage, and mechanics.
2. Students will be able to analyze and interpret literary works by applying principles of critical thinking, literary criticism, or theoretical engagement.
3. Students will be able to produce researched documents that demonstrate the ability to locate a variety of credible sources, employ them effectively through quotations and paraphrases, integrate them smoothly into the writer's own prose, and document them correctly using the style appropriate to the document.

### ENGL 3303 Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of ENGL 3303, students will be able to

1. Identify major historical moments in the evolution of the English language and the cultural, economic, political, and social influences on its various forms
2. Respect and understand diversity in language use, patterns, and dialects across cultures, ethnic groups, geographic regions, and social roles
3. Apply knowledge of language acquisition to case studies
4. Teach an audience the structure and workings of phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics

Assignment	Grade Determination			Points
	SLO	Due Date		
Tests (3 tests, 10 points each)	1, 2, 3	Sep 12, Oct 3, Oct 24		30
Exercises (6 sets, 5 points each, lowest score dropped)	3, 4	Tuesdays 9/4, 9/18, 9/25, 10/9, 10/16, 10/30		25
Paper	2	November 10		20
Final Exam	1, 2, 3	December 12		25

## Assignments

### Tests

You will take three tests through the semester in class; these tests will review course material and prepare you for the cumulative final exam. If you will not be in class on the day of an assigned test, prior to the class email me a clear, revised memo explaining why you cannot be in class and requesting assistance. *If you do not contact me prior to class, the tests will not be made up.*

### Exercises

You will complete six sets of exercises. No late work will be accepted; instead, your lowest grade will be dropped.

### Paper

You will write an eight-page researched essay that supports and develops your original thesis about language and identity. Sources should be documented using MLA 8<sup>th</sup> edition. See Blackboard for resources on this subject and MLA.

### Final Exam

The final exam will be an in-class, cumulative short answer and essay test. Please schedule December 12 for this exam now, so we won't be negotiating later in the semester.

## Course Policies

### Scholastic Honesty

All work submitted must be your own and must be written exclusively for this class; the use of sources must be appropriately, correctly, and consistently documented. Quotations, paraphrases, or summaries that are not documented and the use of papers written by others constitute plagiarism.

Three different acts are considered plagiarism:

- (1) failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas,
- (2) failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and
- (3) failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words.

**A grade of "F" for the course is earned if the work exhibits any of these kinds of scholastic dishonesty.**

### Turning in Papers/Assignments

To pass the class you must successfully complete and submit each assignment by the due date. All assignments must be submitted to Blackboard unless otherwise noted. If you do not submit assignments to Blackboard, they will be considered late. If you fail to turn in any assignments, even one, you may earn an F for the course. If life gets in the way, and you find yourself starting to fall behind, contact me so we can discuss strategies for you or withdraw from the course and take it in a semester when you have more time.

### Grade Changes

Please discuss your grades with me during the first half of the semester. Once the semester is over and I have entered grades into the system, I will not consider grade changes unless I, myself, miscalculated. Please do not ask for extra credit or chances to revise after the tenth week of class. You should know that you have the right to appeal your grade. According to the *Sul Ross Rio Grande College Student Handbook*, "if you disagree with a grade you received, you should discuss it with the instructor of the course. If you are not satisfied with results of that discussion, make an appointment to discuss it with the Chair of the Department [in this case, Dr. Hernandez]" (17).

### ADA Statement

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Kathy Biddick in Student Services, Room C-102, Uvalde campus. The mailing address is 2623 Garner Field Road, Rio Grande College-Sul Ross State University, Uvalde, Texas 78801. Telephone: 830-279-3003. E-mail:

[kbiddick@sulross.edu](mailto:kbiddick@sulross.edu).

## Schedule

Readings from Baugh and Cable's *A History of the English Language* are referred to as B&C

Readings from Blackboard are referred to as Bb

### Week One, August 29

Introduce language, sounds of language, International Phonetic Alphabet.

Homework: complete Daniels "Nine Ideas about Language" Exercise (see Assignments and submit to Bb by Tuesday, September 4. Complete next class's readings: B&C Ch 1 and Daniels' "Nine Ideas about Language" (see Week Two).

### Week Two, September 5: Short class; Exercise due Sep 4 (submit to Blackboard Assignments)

B&C Ch 1 "English Present and Future"

Bb Daniels "Nine Ideas about Language" (in Bb Readings folder) and complete answer #4 under FOR DISCUSSION AND REVIEW on p 36—due Tuesday 9/4; submit to Blackboard Assignments.

### Week Three, September 12: Test # 1 on Wk 2 & Wk 3 readings

B&C Ch 2 "The Indo-European Family of Languages"

Bb Bolton "Language: An Introduction"

### Week Four, September 19: Exercises in Callary due Sep 18

B&C Ch 3 "Old English"

Bb Callary "Phonetics" (pp 87-97) and complete exercise 1 on p. 91 and exercise 2 on p. 93—due Tuesday, 9/18.

### Week Five, September 26: Exercises in Callary due Sep 25

B&C Ch 4 "Foreign Influences on Old English"

Bb Callary "Phonetics" (pp 97-107) and complete exercise 3 on p. 100-101, exercise 4 on p. 104, and exercise 5 on p 106—due Tuesday 9/25.

### Week Six, October 3: Test #2 on Wks 4, 5, and 6 readings

B&C Ch 5 "The Norman Conquest and the Subjection of English, 1066-1200"

Bb "What Is Phonology? Language Sounds and Their Rules"

### Week Seven, October 10: Exercises in Gleason due October 9

B&C Ch 6 "The Reestablishment of English, 1200-1500"

Bb Gleason "The Identification of Morphemes" and complete FOR DISCUSSION AND REVIEW Swahili (East Africa) exercise on p 164-165—due Tuesday 10/9

### Week Eight, October 17: Exercises in Heny due Oct 16

B&C Ch 7 "Middle English"

Bb Heny "Syntax: The Structure of Sentences" and complete exercise 4 p 213 and exercise 5 p 222—due Tuesday 10/16.

### Week Nine, October 24: Test #3 on Wks 7, 8, and 9 readings; Workshop for Paper

B&C Ch 8 "The Renaissance, 1500-1650"

Bb Heny "Syntax: The Structure of Sentences"

### Week Ten, October 31: NO CLASS MEETING, Dr. Roche at conference; Exercise in Moskowitz due Oct 30

B&C Ch 9 "The Appeal to Authority, 1650-1800"

Bb Moskowitz "Acquisition of Language" and complete FOR DISCUSSION AND REVIEW question #1 OR #2 on p 554—due Tuesday 10/30

**Week Eleven, November 7:** Submit Paper November 10  
B&C Ch 10 "The Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries"  
Bb Lenneberg, "Developmental Milestones in Motor and Language Development"

**Week Twelve, November 14:**  
B&C Ch 11 "The English Language in America"  
Bb Miller and Gildea "How Children Learn Words"

**Week of Thanksgiving, November 21:** Thanksgiving Holiday

**Week Thirteen, November 28:**  
B&C Ch 12 "The Twenty-first Century"

**Week Fourteen, December 5:** Review

**Week Fifteen, December 12:** Final Exam, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.