

**LING 399**  
**Instructor: Scott Saft**  
**TEL: 932-7221**

**Fall 2019**  
**Office: PB 17-5**

### **Course Description**

This course is designed for a student with a keen interest in historical and comparative linguistics who has already taken the course we offer in that area (LING 345). This directed studies will allow the student to go into greater detail in her study of the history of language and to focus specifically on the development of English, the specific language on which she desires to concentrate. As part of the fulfilling the requirements for this course, the student will work closely with the textbook and write weekly short responses as well as one final research paper on a topic of her choice. The student and instructor are to meet on a weekly basis although assignments are to be submitted electronically via Lulima (almost) every Sunday.

### **Measurable Student Learning Outcomes**

- 1) Explain in writing the phonological, morphological, and syntactic changes of the English language throughout time
- 2) Describe the historical and social events that have impacted the English language over the course of time
- 3) Explain in writing the theoretical frameworks applied to the study of language, and specifically English, from a historical perspective
- 4) Write a well-formed research paper on a topic related to the history of the English language

### **Textbook**

Lerer, Seth. 2015. *Inventing English : A Portable History of the Language*, revised and expanded edition. Columbia University Press.

### **Grading**

Attendance and participation	20%
Short response papers (2 pages in length) (due on Sunday of every week)	40%
Final Research paper	40%

### **Course Schedule (Based on the Textbook Coverage)**

Week 1	Introduction
Week 2	Chapters 2 & 3
Week 3	Chapters 4 & 5

Week 4	Chapter 6
Week 5	Chapter 7
Week 6	Chapter 8
Week 7	Chapter 9
Week 8	Chapter 10
Week 9	Chapter 11
Week 10	Chapters 12 & 13 (A short statement of topic for final research paper to be included in the weekly written response)
Week 11	Chapter 14
Week 12	Chapter 15
Week 13	Chapter 16
Week 14	Chapter 17
Week 15	Chapter 18
Week 16	Chapters 19 & 20 (no response paper due so student can be working on final research paper)

Final paper due on Thurs. December 19<sup>th</sup> (last day of finals) by 5:00 pm